THE

SCOTS MAGAZINE,

AND

Edinburgh Literary Miscellany,

FOR FEBRUARY 1805:

With a View of the CRADLE *of* NESS, *in* SHETLAND.

CONTENTS.

	Page
Register of the Weather for *February* 1805,	82
High Water at *Leith* for *February*,	ib.
Description of the *View*,	83
The Inspector, No. II.	84
Scheme for completing the New College of *Edinburgh*,	86
List of Vessels passed the Sound from the North and East Seas in 1804,	87
Account of the *Widow's Fund* instituted by the Society of Writers to the Signet,	88
Observations made in a tour through parts of *Orkney* and *Shetland*, in 1804,	89
Historical View of the first establishment of the Roman Catholic Religion,	93
Remarks on *Mr Mackie's* Estimate of the Proportion between Animal and Vegetable food produced from equal quantities of Land,	97
The Traveller,	100
Account of the Ancient Border Moss-troopers, or Marauders,	104
Indenture to single Combat, by *Musgrave* and *Carleton*, in 1607,	105
General Aspect of the *Chinese* Empire,	106
Description of *Pekin*,	107
Treatment of Women in *China*,	110
SCOTTISH REVIEW.	
I. *Playfair's* Life of *Dr Hutton*,	111
II. *Lord Lauderdale* on the Circulation of *Ireland*,	119
Scottish Literary Intelligence,	122
Celestial Phenomena for *March* 1805,	123
Memoirs of the Progress of Manufactures, Chemistry, Science, and the Fine Arts,	124
Mode of making Potatoe bread, in some parts of the *Highlands* of *Scotland*,	126
Remarks on two passages in "the Sabbath," a poem,	127
Books and Pamphlets published in *London* in *January* 1805,	128
Literary Intelligence, English and Foreign,	132
POETRY.	
Caerlaverock Castle,	132
To the Shade of the Man of Sorrow,	133
The Braes of Ballahun,	134
Triumph of Immortality,	ib.
Verses written in *New Hall* Woods, on a Winter day,	135
Lines to *Dr Currie*,	136
Night Piece,	ib.
On a Hoary Head,	ib.
MONTHLY REGISTER.	
Foreign Intelligence,	137
America, Meeting of Congress,	ib.
—— Escape of two French frigates,	138
—— Fire at *New York*,	ib.
France, Emperor's first speech,	139
Holland,	142
England, War with *Spain*,	143
—— *British* Declaration,	ib.
—— *Spanish* note,	147
—— *Napoleon's* letter to the King,	152
—— Lord *Malgrave's* answer,	ib.
—— Fever at *Gibraltar*,	153
—— Loss of the *Doris* frigate,	ib.
—— —— of Captain *Jervis*,	154
Law Intelligence,	ib.
Scotland, Court of Session,	155
—— Civil Appointments,	157
Marriages, Births, and Deaths,	158
Prices of Stocks,	160
Prices of Grain per quarter Corn Exchange, *London*,	ib.
Prices of Grain at *Haddington*,	ib.
Prices of Meal in *Edinburgh* Market,	ib.

State

State of the BAROMETER, in inches and decimals, and of Farenheit's THERMOMETER in the open air, taken in the morning before sun-rise, and at noon; and the quantity of rain-water fallen, in inches and decimals, from Jan. 26. to Feb. 25. 1805, in the vicinity of Edinburgh.

1805.	Barom.	Thermom. M.	Thermom. N.	Rain. In. Pts.	
Jan. 26	29.71	34	37	—	Cloudy
27	29.65	32	36	—	Cloudy
28	29.5	31	33	0.1	Sleet
29	29.15	34	34	0.10	Ditto
30	29.16	34	36	0.45	Snow
31	29.54	35	38	0.1	Ditto
Feb. 1	29.75	33	36	—	Clear
2	29.69	36	36	—	Ditto
3	29.82	31	38	—	Ditto
4	29.45	34	36	0.09	Snow
5	29.05	34	30	0.05	Ditto
6	29.51	25	39		Clear
7	29.49	34	40	0.04	Sleet
8	29.24	42	48	—	Clear
9	29.391	43	50	—	Cloudy
10	29.48	46	49	—	Ditto
11	29.77	36	40	—	Clear
12	29.95	30	39	—	Ditto
13	30.1	27	42	—	Ditto
14	29.9	32	42	—	Ditto
15	29.91	34	37	—	Ditto
16	29.8	34	39	—	Ditto
17	29.79	35	39	—	Ditto
18	29.75	35	40	—	Dit to
19	29.75	32	44	—	Ditto
20	29.6	40	45	—	Cloudy
21	29.22	42	48	0.3	Rain
22	29.2	38	44	0.049	Showers
23	29.15	39	48	0.04	Ditto
24	29.17	46	47	0.22	Rain
25	29 22	38	43	0.1	Ditto
				Quantity of Rain	1.549

High Water at LEITH For MARCH 1805.

Days.	Morn. H.	Morn. M.	Even. H.	Even. M.
Fr. 1.	2	10	2	29
Sa. 2.	2	48	3	7
Su. 3.	3	26	3	45
M. 4.	4	4	4	23
T. 5.	4	42	5	1
W. 6.	5	20	5	43
Th. 7.	6	9	6	37
Fr. 8.	7	9	7	47
Sa. 9.	8	29	9	15
Su. 10.	10	1	10	43
M. 11.	11	19	11	42
T. 12.	——		0	26
W. 13.	0	51	1	11
Th. 14.	1	31	1	51
Fr. 15.	2	10	2	29
Sa. 16.	2	48	3	7
Su. 17.	3	26	3	45
M 18.	4	4	4	23
T. 19.	4	42	5	1
W. 20	5	20	5	39
Th. 21.	5	58	6	17
Fr. 22.	6	36	6	55
Sa. 23.	7	15	7	51
Su 24.	8	31	9	13
M. 25.	9	55	10	34
T. 26.	11	8	11	32
W. 27.	11	58	—	—
Th. 28.	0	23	0	45
Fr. 29.	1	5	1	26
Sa. 30.	1	45	2	4
Su. 31.	2	23	2	41

MOON's PHASES,
FOR MARCH 1805.

Apparent time at Edinburgh.

	D.	H.	M.	
New Moon	1.	10.	16.	Mor.
First Qrtr.	8.	9.	23.	Mor.
Full Moon,	15.	9.	36.	Mor.
New Moon	30.	10.	40.	Even

THE

THE

Scots Magazine,

AND

EDINBURGH LITERARY MISCELLANY,

For *FEBRUARY* 1805.

Description *of the* Cradle *of* Noss *with a* View.

It is not uncommon, among the nations inhabiting the more rugged and inhospitable regions of the world, where Nature scatters her gifts with a sparing hand, where the peasant is exposed to a thousand hardships, and forced to toil for an uncertain and scanty sustenance, to find them resorting to those rude and adventurous means of supplying their wants, which in more favoured countries would be considered as a feat of needless and fool-hardy daring. The subject of the view presents one of those instances of the singular invention, and, at the same time, of the fearless intrepidity of the natives of the Shetland islands. Inhabiting a country where the feeble vegetation of a few summer weeks (if it deserves the name of summer, where the oblique rays of the sun, shining along the horizion, barely warm the surface, without having force to penetrate the soil,) supplies but a scanty herbage. To them every morsel of rocky pasture has its value, and no exertions are spared to render the most dangerous cliffs accessible to their sheep and cattle.

Many fruitless attempts were made by the inhabitants of the island of Noss to gain access to a lofty and perpendicular rock, covered with pasture, entirely surrounded by the sea, but not above forty or fifty yards from their coast, on the eastern side, where the sea beats with extreme violence.

It was long deemed utterly inaccessible, when an adventurous youth of the island, about fifty years ago, undertook to scale the rock, though strongly dissuaded by his countrymen from making the attempt. He persisted in his resolution, and was attended by all the inhabitants of the island, who crowded to the opposite headland of Noss, to witness the result, where, at length, after many wonderful escapes, they had the satisfaction to see him happily accomplish the perilous exploit. A rope was thrown across, which he made fast to the projecting corner of a cliff. amidst the acclamations of all present. Their acclamations however proved fatal to the unfortunate young man, who became so much elated with success, that despising the intreaties of all present to convey himself back by means of the rope, which he could have done without any danger, unfortunately resolved to return the way he came, heedless of the danger he had once

surmounted

surmounted. He had made but little progress, when his foot slipped, he was instantly precipitated from rock to rock, and dashed to pieces before he reached the sea.

The natives have since adapted a box, with rollers, in the form of a cradle, to the rope, and, by means of this flying bridge, boldly transport themselves and cattle across the chasm, where the sea dashes at a frightful depth below.

The Inspector.

No. II. *February* 1805.

THE following "Journal" was found among some old papers which *Timothy Buck* left behind him, when, for reasons best known to himself, he took it into his head to abandon his native country. It was written when he was about twenty, and may be considered as a very faithful index to his mind and character. Born with abilities of a very feeble cast, he never could have greatly distinguished himself; but having many external advantages, it was in his power to become respectable and useful. The errors of his education, however, and the folly of his parents, disappointed every hope that might have been conceived of him, and rendered him at last a finished blackguard. Early introduced into fashionable life, he had not time or opportunity for cultivating the little talent he possessed: the learning that had been driven into him when at school was quickly forgotten: at home and abroad he was engaged in a constant round of dissipation and amusement: and no care was taken to keep him from the contagion of dissolute society. His companions were bloods and debauchees, who laughed at intellectual attainments as loudly as they did at virtue. From their instructions and example he soon acquired as much dexterity as any of them, in quizzing grave parsons, seducing pretty girls, and performing all the other heroic exploits on which the fame of such persons is commonly built.

But, wonderful to be told! Timothy sometimes aspired to the acquisition of a little knowledge, and it was on an occasion of this kind that his Journal was composed. He fancied, that, by travelling forty or fifty miles, he might see a good deal of the country, obtain a number of new ideas, and give a proper exercise to his reasoning powers. In compliance with this unaccountable *caprice*, he determined to visit the town of C——, talked incessantly for several days about the resolution he had formed, prepared himself for it by going through a scene of dissipation that lasted for three nights, and, that nothing might be wanting to secure his pleasure and improvement, he very wisely took his seat in a stage coach.

Before he set out, he bought a sheet of paper, and, after studying for a quarter of an hour, produced the following sentence, which he instantly committed to writing: "Account of my journey to C——, containing my adventures by the way, my reflections *en passant*, with many other things: to be shewn when I return to Will Stalker, and Tom Burgundy, my confidential friends; and if they approve—or, perhaps, whether they approve or not, to be published in some newspaper or other, for the benefit of future travellers." This may be considered as the title of Mr Buck's Journal; and as the Journal itself is the only monument of his industry that he has left, and as it will convey a pretty accurate idea of the mental exertions our modern

modern fine gentlemen are capable of making, I have subjoined a faithful copy of it for the perusal of my readers. Neither days nor dates, it will be observed, are mentioned. But there are greater omissions than these, for which I can offer no apology, as our hero himself has offered none. I may be allowed to remark, however, that jolly fellows, such as he was, are not guided by ordinary rules, and never think themselves accountable for their ignorance and stupidity. That the piece may not appear to be altogether out of character, I shall only add, that I have kept out several profane oaths and obscene expressions which exist in the original, and serve in some measure to prove its genuineness; as by retaining such things, I should justly offend the delicacy of the chaste, and wound the feelings of the pious.

" Coach vastly too crowded—can't get my limbs stretched out—shall have a cramp in a trice.

Confound my brains—have forgotten my travelling cap, and fifty thousand things I meant to have brought along with me.

My companions, four gentlemen, and a young lady with black eyes—wish all the gentlemen to the devil—an old fellow thrusts his elbow into my side—very uncomfortable—must now take a peep outwards.—

Pass through a dirty village—the people very rude because they stare at us—the dogs bark much—as unpolite as the people—two boys fighting—seem to be true game—sorry can't stay to see it out.

A parcel of gypsies on the wayside—their life very disagreeable—notwithstanding that they are very merry—Query. How are we to account for this?—I am no philosopher.—afraid my turn does not lie that way.

The horses stink confoundedly—my companions turn up their noses—the young lady blushes—the wench is pretty—should like to be solus cum sola, (one of the few Latin phrases I understand)—learned it by hearing my old tutor Syntax repeat it to himself every day—get hungry,—long for a confectioner's shop—ices, buns, and brandy—a glorious trio—strikes me at this moment that I engaged to dine with Lord Pouncet to-day—by jingo! what a nice kick-up will be there—engagements to dinner should never be broken—*Mem.* ask his Lordship's pardon when I return from my excursion.—

Alight at an inn—the Landlord very jolly, and the Landlady drunk—dine on fish and roast beef—the fish stale—the beef done to a cinder—wine quite new, and very weak—bill cursedly high—make a speech to the company on our bad entertainment, consisting of three whole sentences and a broken one—applauded by the black-eyed wench for my eloquence,—begin to think myself a greater genius than I supposed—resolved to read Blair's Lectures, which my tutor Syntax once recommended—receive uncivil language from the waiter—damn the fellow for his impertinence, and give him nothing—*Mem.* The scoundrel to have as little when I return.

Begins to rain hard—coach jolts cursedly—roads must be very bad, or the carriage ill hung—which of these is the case? a question to put to the driver when we get to the next stage—grows dark—hum 'The Dusky Night,' &c. a favourite song of Lord Pouncet's—interrupted by an old fellow snoring in the corner—no conversation—get devilish tired—wish I were sitting at home over a bottle of Port—feel myself growing sleepy—can't sleep in a coach.—Query, why not? the young lady says because it is not in my power—conclude from this, that she is something of a philosopher—determined to be cautious how I speak before her during the rest of our journey—

miss

miss my travelling cap very much—*Mem.* Never forget such a thing again.

Try to chat with the young lady,—the hussy quotes French, and gives me sharp answers—she says something about ignorance, impertinence, and puppies—afraid she is levelling at me—bite my lip and say nothing,—a young fellow opposite laughs at me—swear at him roundly, and promise him a drubbing at our next stage—the fellow, not afraid, retorts upon me, and threatens to toss me out of the coach—bite my lip again and say nothing—resolved to challenge him as soon as we arrive at C——, change my mind in a few minutes, believing the scoundrel to be nothing else than a country butcher.

Unhappy—don't know what is the matter with me—begin to feel drowsy—glad of this—fall asleep—

Awaked by *the Butcher* bawling to the driver—a troublesome fellow,—don't choose to tell him so, lest he should have any of his knives about him—enter C——, cry out Italiam, Italiam, a phrase which Domine Syntax always repeated when he got within sight of the University—*Mem.* Not to forget Syntax in my last will.—

The inn at which we stopped quite crowded—bad lodgings—ring the bell twenty times in vain—swear confoundedly, and speak loud, but all to no purpose—determined to set out on my return next morning, and make up for all my accidents by entertaining a parcel of hearty fellows at my own lodgings, and *kicking up a row.*

Such is the Journal which Timothy Buck once intended to publish for the benefit of future travellers. My readers will no doubt have admired the interesting adventures thro' which our hero passed, and the profound reflections that he made on the various objects that attracted his eye; and will think themselves at once instructed and amused by such a striking production of intellect. Let them not, however, be altogether astonished at the phenomenon as if it were singular, and not to be met with but once in an age. If they could only make the experiment, they might have instances in great abundance. Take fifty out of a hundred of our fashionable bloods, subject them to a similar process, and the result will be found as similar to the one I have mentioned as one ass is to another.

Advertisement.

WHEREAS, the writing of Journals, such as the above, is a very easy, and by no means a profitable task, I advise all my readers to abstain from the practice, except in extraordinary circumstances; and also give notice to my correspondents, that the Inspector will publish nothing of the kind, unless the propriety of doing so is proved by five substantial arguments at least, distinctly stated, and written out in a fair legible hand. *O.*

SCHEME *for completing the* NEW COLLEGE *of* EDINBURGH.

To the Editor.

SIR,

EVERY individual may sometimes have it in his power to benefit the public, if not by his own purse, at least by useful hints, which may be adopted. I here offer one to the Magistrates of Edinburgh, which, if meeting with their approbation, may be of considerable use.

My

My object is to promote the building of the New College, to which I hope my plan may contribute.

At a time, when the public attention seems to be so completely engaged in the prospect of obtaining fortunes, by means of Lotteries, it has often been a subject of regret to me, that one has never been attempted, with the view of enabling the managers to proceed in the building of that elegant, and, I trust, highly useful seminary.

Government, on such an occasion as this, would be so far from discountenancing, that it would perhaps grant such a petition, without the emolument which generally accrues to itself from schemes of this kind, and it would certainly be content with demanding a very moderate price for the tickets.

To shew the possibility of realizing such a scheme, I have made two calculations, the one upon the supposition that it takes place, free of expence, the other, that the sum of L. 5. for every ticket is given to government. I must acknowledge my total ignorance of the nature of Lotteries, but am induced to give this little sketch, from the hope that it is not entirely visionary.

If the number of tickets is 25,000, and they are sold at the rate of L. 15. per ticket, it will amount to L. 375,000; suppose the value of the prizes L. 200,000, there will remain L. 175,000, from which, if we deduct L. 25,000 as incidental expence, there will be a profit of L. 150,000 to complete the College.

In the second case, suppose government requires L. 5. per ticket, the sum to be paid it will be L. 125,000, which deducted from L. 375,000, leaves a balance of L. 250,000. The prizes in this case may amount only to L. 150,000; incidental expences being the same as before; there remains L. 75,000 for the building of the College; a certain discount may be also placed upon the prizes.

I have no doubt of the success of the undertaking, from the well-known generosity of a British public, which never fails, when directed to a proper object.

Such, Mr Editor, is the plan I have ventured to suggest to the consideration of the Magistrates of Edinburgh, which, although it may not have advantages to the extent of my calculation and wishes, still I hope, that if the trial be made, it will not prove unproductive.

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List of Vessels passed the Sound from the North and East Seas. Anno 1804.

English,	3507	Bremeners,	93
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Prussians,	2012	Russians,	84
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In all, 10,580.

Account

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Account *of the* Widow's Fund *instituted by the* Society *of* Writers *to the* Signet.

As we think it desirable that the Scots Magazine should contain a record of all improvements and new institutions set on foot in this part of the united kingdom, that under consideration seems well entitled to a place. Its advantages are obvious. It is seldom that people think of laying by small sums, which they would find difficulty in placing, and which, remaining in their hands, would soon be disposed of in some other manner.

A length of life besides, which can never be calculated upon, would be necessary for accumulating these into any considerable sum. By this system, too, the unmarried, who can well afford it, are made to contribute towards assisting the families of their married brethren; a circumstance which, though to themselves it may sometimes appear a hardship, is evidently conducive to the general interests of the society.

The first institution of this kind in Scotland was that established by the clergymen of the Church of Scotland. The complete success which attended it, gave every encouragement to the prosecution of the system. It does not indeed apply in an equal degree to the case of persons employed in agriculture, manufacture, or trade. There, a capital being necessary, is left to the widow, who, if she be of an active disposition, may often continue the business with advantage. But it is of the greatest importance where the income arises from salaries and professions, and consequently drops entirely at the death of the husband. And this is precisely the predicament of the class of men under consideration.

The funds for the support of this institution are drawn from the following sources:

1. A payment of *six guineas* per annum from every contributor, in consequence of which, he becomes entitled to the benefit of the fund. This is voluntary with regard to all old members of the society, but compulsory upon such as have entered subsequent to the passing of the act. A few only of the former have declined joining. The whole number of contributors amounts to about 200.

2. An equalization tax, or a payment of thirty shillings for every year, by which the age of the husband exceeds that of the wife. This is particularly proper, as residence in a large town, and the fluctuating nature of professional income, are both circumstances unfavourable to early marriages on the part of the husband.

3. Twenty pounds is added to the usual sum paid by each member at entrance, and applied to this fund.

4. There was formerly a smaller fund belonging to the society which was employed for the relief of their widows and children. That part which applied to the widows is now thrown into the present fund.

Although the institution has continued only for about a year, the trustees are already possessed of 8,000l. in the 3 per cent consols, besides 500l. lodged in a banking-house in Edinburgh. No disbursement is to take place till 1807, when they expect to be able to allow fifty pounds a year to each widow.

Obser-

Tour *through some of the* Orkney Islands, *in* 1804.

(Continued from our last, p. 30.)

LAST winter, (1803-4) a vast mast was drifted ashore by an east wind, upon the east end of the island of Stronsa. This mast was found to be marked as belonging to the York,—one of our men-of-war of 74 guns, which had unfortunately foundered in these turbulent northern seas. When the mast was first found, it was complete and uninjured; and, being a new one, (dated near the bottom "1800,") must have been of considerable value. The ignorant, but avaritious natives, however, had laboured night and day, till they succeeded in cutting it into three divisions: and in this mangled state we saw it lying on the strand, at this time (August 1804.) It appears that the main object of this foolish labour, was to get at two of the great iron hoops with which the beams composing the mast were bound together.

From Stronsa we passed (3d Aug.) to the island of

Sanda.—We landed on the point of Elsness. Here we observe much fine pasture-land destroyed by the cruel practice of paring off the turf. In Sanda this is chiefly done for fuel, there being no peat in the island. In other parts of Orkney, the sward is peeled off, in order to swell the compost dunghill. Whatever be the motive, it is a practice ruinous to the face of the country, and which ought to be prevented. Sanda is the flattest of all the Orkney islands. When we landed at Elsness, it happened to be ebb-tide, and we walked dry shod across a sandy bay, containing perhaps 80 acres, which is covered by the sea, (though with no great depth of water,) at every flood of the tide. As the sea enters by a very narrow passage, the whole of this bay might be gained, and converted into pasture-land, if it were thought worth the expence.

This night (3d Aug.) there was a great deal of very vivid lightning and loud thunder, accompanied with torrents of rain. Every flash of lightning made the sea appear like a vast sheet of flame. Next morning we found ourselves enveloped in an uncommonly dense mist: at eight o'clock, instead of bright day, we had scarcely darkness visible*.

We visited the house of Scarr, the seat of Mr Traill of Westove, who resides on his property, and is engaged in enclosing, draining, and other improvements. Here we were happy to find a most extensive and well chosen library, which must be a source of great pleasure to an enlightened mind, during the dreary months of winter, in this lonely insular situation.

In a meadow, near a place called Saville, about half a mile from the church of Burness, Mr Traill shewed us a large *meerstone*, or isolated mass of primary rock. The whole island of

* During this thick fog, as I afterwards learned from the captain himself, an Irish vessel, laden with deals, unfortunately and most unexpectedly struck the rocks of Fair Isle, and went to pieces. The crew, and most part of the cargo, were saved, the vessel being close in shore. The cargo, however, must lie at Fair Isle till next summer, it being impossible for any vessel to anchor at so exposed and tempestuous a place after August. Fair Isle lies about half-way between Orkney and Shetland.

Feb. 1805.

of Sanda is composed of secondary strata, sandstone, sandstone flag and limestone. The solitary exception in question seems to be a mass of grey granite: and yet there are no original rocks of this kind of granite in all Orkney. We endeavoured to estimate the gross weight of the mass, and calculated it to be about 14 tons. This *moor-stone* we consider as one of the most uncommon mineralogical appearances in Orkney.

All the pasture grounds of Sanda abound with the *field gentian* (gentiana campestris;) and some of them are adorned with the beautiful *bird's eye primrose* (Primula farinosa,) rather a rare plant in other parts of the British dominions.

We visited the rock of Heclabir, which the natives account very curious. We had been taught, indeed, that it was volcanic, or at least "calcined by fire*;" but we soon found, that its only volcanic resemblance consisted in the similarity of its name† to that of the great volcano in Iceland:—for the rock of Heclabir is nothing else than a sandstone breccia, most of the component pieces of which, however, are rounded and water worn. The pieces are of different sizes, from lumps of 3, 5, or 10 lbs. weight, to nodules the size of sparrows eggs. A few quartz nodules are interspersed.

From Heclabir we went to the old house of Stove, finely situated at the head of a sandy bay‡. Over the outer gate is this inscription: "Soli "Deo gloria. Septem proavi hæc "nobis reliquerunt. J. F. (Jacobus Fea.) B. T. (Barbara Traill.) 1671." These *septem proavi* were all direct ascendants; all of the same name, James Fea, and holders of the same property and title, Clestron. This ancient family, however, is now nearly extinct: the estate has become the property of Mr Laing the historian. At a little distance from the house, stands a very neat little chapel, where, about fifty years ago, the episcopal worship was performed. Over the door is this inscription: "Keep thy foot when thou goest "into the house of God"—This handsome little chapel will soon be no more, being apparently considered as a legitimate *quarry* by the tenants and cottars around. As the family burying-place, however, it ought to remain inviolate.

Sanda is accounted the granary of Orkney. The soil is light and sandy, the bottom dry. I never saw finer fields of oats than those of Sanda at this time; it was all the *grey oat*, however, (avena strigosa.) The shores are in general flat, so that the spray is never dashed over the face of the country, as is often the case in most of the other islands.

Sanda is equally productive in kelp. It is generally reckoned, that nearly a fourth part of the whole kelp

* Stat. Acc. of Scotland.

† *Hecla* (in Norwegian, I presume,) is said to mean *Leath*. In Unst, in Shetland, there is a spring called Heclaburn, accounted very salubrious by the natives. Account of Unst by Mr Mowat of Belmont. Stat. Acc. vol. v. p. 185.

‡ The whole of this bay is one continued cockle-bed; and, we were told that in times of dearth, it is no uncommon thing to see some dozens of the half famished natives digging the cockles at ebb tide. This, at best, is but a miserable fare, and it is painful to reflect, that the sea all around is at the same time swarming with neglected shoals of delicious and wholesome fish;—haddock, skate, cod, coalfish, and sometimes herring, which are left to be the prey of thousands of gulls, cormorants, and solan geese. How precious to the natives would be the establishment on each of the Orkney islands, of one or two fishing families, with proper boats, nets, and lines, to prosecute with effect the different branches of the fishery!

kelp made in Orkney is manufactured in this island. The sea weed here, it is remarked, grows more quickly than in many other situations. In most parts of Sanda it is shorn every year: in other islands it does not admit cutting oftener than every second year; in some places, not oftener than every third year. The kelp of Sanda is generally accounted of excellent quality. The tides around this island flow and ebb with the velocity of rapid rivers: and to this circumstance is perhaps to be ascribed both the quick growth of the sea weed, and its richness in alkaline salts.

This fine island, however, labours under a considerable disadvantage, the want of fuel. There is no peat-moss in it. Peat abounds, however, in the neighbouring island of Eda, from whence the inhabitants of Sanda are supplied. The poorer class, who cannot import a sufficiency of peats, have recourse to various shifts. They peel off the grassy sward for fuel, a most destructive and detestable practice: they gather also cow-dung and dry it for this purpose: and lastly they dry the large stalks of *red-ware* (fucus digitatus) and burn them. In severe winters, however, with all these expedients, they must be miserably distressed for firing.

6th Aug. 1804. We crossed Sanda Sound, a rough frith, and sailed up Calf Sound, Eda.

Eda is a mossy island; a great part of it consists of barren marshy heaths. Juncus uliginosus here covers whole acres; and the pretty little plant radiola milliegrana, or *all-seed*, is every where strewed. The moors of Eda afford shelter to the *adder**, an animal scarcely found in any of the other islands. In passing across the island, we saw at some distance the great *stone* of *Seter*, a huge flag, rising about sixteen feet upright in the midst of a moor. Some little salt, of very indifferent quality, is still manufactured on the shores of Eda, where fuel is plentiful. It could be sold for 6d. or 8d. a bushel, but the duty is 1s. 6d. on the bushel. This however is, no doubt, often evaded. Indeed, the salt is so impure, being made in small vessels on their common cottage fire, that its trifling value bears no reasonable proportion to so heavy an impost.

The cottars who manufacture it, exchange it with their neighbours for meal and other commodities.

From Eda we crossed in the evening Fersness Sound, to Rapness in *Westra*.—Here we first saw a favourite supper dish of the Orcadians; *Sillocks*, that had been just taken from the sea. Sillocks are the fry of the coalfish †, and they swarm about the shores of Orkney in countless myriads. The rocky shores of Rapness present many rugged precipices and deep caverns. On the rocks here, we saw the Scots lovage (Ligusticum Scoticum) growing in great plenty.

Near the house of Clet, a seat of Mr Stewart of Brough, we were gratified to see a considerable field of flax of very tolerable quality. The foreign weed called *gold of pleasure* ‡ was, however, rather common among it. The *blaw-wort*, or blue-bottle §, which appears in our wheat-fields in the south, here shewed its flowers among the flax. Between the house of Clet and the new church, I saw much of the beautiful *bird's-eye*

* The viper; coluber berus.

† Gadus carbonarius. After the first year, the *sillock* becomes a *cooth*: when full grown, the same fish is called a *sethe*.

‡ Myagrum sativum. L. Moenchia of Dr Withering.

§ Centaurea cyanus.

ye primrose *, already mentioned as growing in Sanda.

In Westra there is one natural harbour called Piero-wall. Here are still the remains of a village; for some shipping trade was formerly carried on at this place. Now, however, that trade has vanished. Probably a considerable portion of it was of the contraband kind.

From Piero-wall a beautiful smooth grassy lawn extends upwards, with a gentle ascent, to a grand ruinous edifice, called the *Castle of Noltland*. The walls are lofty, and, when contrasted with the humble cottages around, give the castle a majestic appearance. It is curious, that a belief still prevails among the common people (who can have no source of information but tradition) that this vast house was built by orders of Mary, Queen of Scots, as a place of refuge to Bothwell. Of the date of its erection, however, no traditional hint is afforded; and it is not very consistent with the character of the unfortunate Queen to suppose that she foresaw or expected the disastrous fate of her lover, and prepared for him a refuge against the day of calamity. Bothwell, however, may have ordered this castle to be built for himself. He was created duke of Orkney in summer 1566; and to Orkney he retired from the vengeance of the confederate Lords in the summer of the subsequent year. I confess, however, I would consider the castle of Noltland as a building of considerably more ancient date than the days of Mary and Bothwell. It appears never to have been finished according to the original plan; but to have been mutilated and disfigured by some less potent lord, who had patched up to himself a dwelling in it, and stuck up his armorial bearings, which remain to this day a monument of his pride and poverty.

In the neighbourhood of the castle, much havoc has been produced by the blowing of the sands. No measures are employed for putting a period to this kind of devastation. Were the *sea reed* † every where sown or planted (and it is a common weed at Pierowall in the neighbourhood), the ravages of the blowing would soon be bounded.

From Westra we crossed a narrow sound to

Papa Westra,—a beautiful little island, and the most northerly of all the Orkneys. Never did our eyes behold richer tracts of natural clover, red and white ‡, than in this island. The soil is good, and was at this time clothed with abundant crops of oats, bear, and potatoes. On one side, Papa Westra is exposed to the swell of the Atlantic Ocean, which in winter storms dashes the spray entirely across the island. On the other side it is protected from the rage of the German ocean, by a *holm* or *islet*, the habitation of innumerable sea-fowls. We visited this holm; and though it was now the 8th of August, we found in their nests the young of the *toist* ‖, the *scarnie* §, and the *picketarnie* ¥. The *dunter*, or eider-duck, breeds here in great abundance; and its nest is twice robbed in the course of the season, by the natives, for the sake of the

* Primula farinosa.

† Arundo arenaria, Lin.

‡ Trifolium medium; T. alpestre of Lightfoot; known in Orkney by the whimsical name of *Red Curlidoddy*: and Trifolium repens, called *White Curlidoddy*.

‖ Colymbus grylle.

§ Larus fuscus.

¥ Sterna hirundo. The name *Picketarnie* is a close imitation of the call of the bird.

the eider down *. The auk † also makes its nest on this holm, as well as the *scarf* ‡ and the shag ‖ On one point we saw near a dozen of seals basking themselves in the sun. Both the common seal (Phoca vitulina), and the great seal (Phoca barbata,) are natives here.

On the margins of the lakes and marshes in this island, we saw many birds of the phalarope genus, which the inhabitants very appropriately name *halfwebs*. We shot the tringa lobata, or grey phalarope.

This island is excellently adapted for the carrying on of the white-fishery, a fine cod bank being situated about two English miles only off the Moal head of Papa Westra. But this field of industry, this source of wealth, is at present entirely neglected. Every cottar, indeed, fishes for his own family; but his tackle is suited only to the catching of rock-fish, or such as remain close in shore. While we were in Papa Westra, we were fortunate enough to find among the cargo of one of these fishing-boats, a most beautiful fish, the Ballan Wrasse of Pennant §, the *Bergil* of the Orcadians. It was then fresh from the sea; its back shone with brilliant red; its sides were barred with orange and resplendent gold colours. Although we carefully preserved its skin, the beauty of the colours has nearly vanished. From the tip of the nose to the extremity of the tail, it measures 18 inches; and it is about 6 inches in depth.—The natives account it very good eating.

The whole island of Papa Westra belongs to one proprietor, who resides in it, in the midst of many contented, though poor, cottars, whose happiness, we believe, it is his study to promote, and with whom he mingles with the most perfect familiarity. In this sequestered spot, the total want of competition seems, however, to shed a languor over all the motions of the inhabitants. In their work, they exhibit a dullness and slowness which form a perfect contrast with the activity of most southern servants. The alarm of war hath never disturbed the repose of the inhabitants of Papa Westra: they speak of it as a thing at a vast distance, with which they have little or no concern. For many weeks during winter, they have no intercourse with Kirkwall, the post town, and consequently hear nothing of the great transactions of the nation.

We left Papa Westra with regret, as, we believe, every visitant must do.

Historical View of the first establishment of the Roman Catholic *Religion.*

THERE is no period in history which exhibits the human mind and the condition of man in a more deplorable aspect than that which is generally termed the *dark ages*. At a more early period of the world, the condition of the human race wandering over the forests and uncultivated fields in pursuit of a scanty subsistence, was uncomfortable; but still men were at liberty to exert themselves in any way conducive to their interest, or the gratification of their desires. Superstitious no doubt they were, but their superstition seldom interfered with their

* This is the bird of which Buchanan, in the close of the first book of his History, has given a marvellous account, under the name of *Colus*, or *Colk*.

† Razor-bill; alca torda.

‡ Pelecanus carbo.

‖ Pelecanus graculus.

§ Labrus balanus of Shaw's Zoology.

their pursuits, or if it did, had but a temporary influence. But in the dark ages, it ruled with unrivalled sway, binding every faculty of the mind under its controul, and reducing mankind under the dominion of a power, which wielded it with irresistible effect to accomplish its ambitious views.

In order to investigate this subject more clearly, I shall, in the *1st* place, give a short history of the progress and usurpation of the church from the time of Constantine till that period when the Bishop of Rome became a temporal prince. *2d*, Investigate some of the more prevailing modes of superstition which took their rise from and after this period. Lastly, Consider the nature of the ecclesiastical government, when reduced to a system, with some of the other causes which accelerated and strengthened its power.

1. After the time of the Apostles, bishops, or overseers were appointed to each of the most considerable churches; and when the duties of their office increased, by the confluence of increasing numbers to the public worship, they elected subordinate ministers to assist them in the discharge of their duty, and to bear a part of the ecclesiastical burden. The Bishops, at first, respected their station and their duty; they knew that the eyes of the world were upon them, and that much depended upon their sobriety and prudence in the discharge of the important and hazardous office to which they had been appointed. No labour appeared severe, no punishment terrible: by a blameless conduct they gained the affections of their hearers, and in the sanctity of their lives evinced the purity of that religion with which they were inspired. The recent paths of the apostles were yet in view, and emulating their unwearied assiduity and diligence, they traversed an empire hostile to their measures, penetrated among unknown or barbarous nations, and by degrees converted a large portion of the Roman world to the Christian religion. The indefatigable labours of St Paul were early witnessed at Rome; surrounded with splendour, with voluptuousness and pleasure, the first germ of religion had struck a deep root, it sprung up in silence and unobserved, till the eye of tyranny beheld its growing progress, and threatened to crush it in the bud. But, while the Christian religion was thus gaining ground, it was necessary that certain laws of church-government should be enacted and agreed to, as far as the situation and circumstances of the whole community would admit. The enforcement of these laws was put in the power of the Bishops, they soon understood and abused this power, and in a short space of time created a gradual chain of subordinate offices, which eventually rose in the scale of importance above one another in proportion to the power of the whole. In some places the seeds of error were early sown, they had been repressed during the storms of persecution, but when these were overblown, they shot up with astonishing and alarming rapidity. The numberless, fanciful, and fantastical doctrines, which visionary sophists, with all the heat of enthusiasm and all the pride of learning were continually pouring upon the world, tended to distract the minds of men and sullied the purity of the original model. Arius, during the reign of Constantine, had begun to disseminate his erroneous opinions; the church was alarmed at a creed which struck deep at the foundation of her established system; but disappointed ambition, or personal enmity, or the love of novelty, sometimes prevail so far, as to cause opinions to be embraced which the understanding, when uninfluenced by passion, would condemn. Certain it is, that several

Bishops

bishops embraced the opinions of Arius; but whether from conviction or from sinister motives, may be doubted. This, however, was a fatal æra in the annals of the church; difference of opinion opened the way to more malignant passions; parties were formed with all the rancour which usually distinguishes religious contests, combined with the insolence of court favour, and the sullen and desperate resolves of disappointed ambition: mutual zeal and hatred inflamed their minds; the monarch engaged in the controversy, and by favouring one party and persecuting the other alternately, as interest or caprice directed; both suffered in the unequal contest. The points upon which they differed, were, for the most part, either unimportant or such as they were unable, from the weakness of the human mind, clearly to understand. Those sublime and mysterious doctrines, which are revealed to man, in order that the system of religion may be pure and perfect, but which were never intended to be discussed in the school of the philosopher, or in the pulpit of the theologian, became the subjects of debate, and the grounds of a lasting separation.

The first Christian emperors found it necessary to make great concessions to the Christian church. While establishing a new religion upon the ruins of one that had continued for many ages, which was deeply rooted in the minds of the vulgar, and firmly connected with the affairs of the state, great refinement and address were necessary. Without denying entirely the operation of second causes, or ascribing to their influence alone the rapid progress of Christianity; we must look in the government of the Deity, for a combination of means, adapted to its various appearances and stages of progress. The enlightened understanding of some, and the fickle disposition of other, might lead them to embrace it; but it had to contend with superior numbers; and while it assumed a modest and unobtruding manner, would be eclipsed by the splendour of its antagonist, or only marked as of novel appearance. Perhaps prudence, or some less worthy passion, might induce the bishops to ask, and the Emperors to grant considerable immunities and privileges. But as wave succeeds wave, the passions of mankind follow in successive order in the path of gratification. The ministers of the age of Constantine were not content with the functions of their appropriated offices, they wished them connected with the state, that they might obtain a temporal, as well as a spiritual dignity. They claimed a filial respect from their sovereigns, and by degrees strengthened their power by the ascendency which they gained over their superstitious minds. At first, indeed, they proceeded with caution, and their usurpations were sanctioned by the spontaneous will of the monarch, or the exigency of the times: but when they found the tide of popular favour turn towards their own party, they pushed their advances with more vigour, and with more determined hopes of success. The revenue of the church augmented daily; the people were credulous and imprudent: the clergy were avaricious, and drew within the vortex of their power whatever their cunning, or hypocrisy, or interest, could procure. We may judge of the valour of certain bishopricks, by the bloody and indecent squabbles among competitors, which often called for the interference of the civil magistrate. Rome had a tempting aspect, and the substance was found to correspond with the appearance. In vain was the ambition and profligacy of the primates of the church inveighed against and condemned by a few honest rustic bishops. The evil spread like contagion: few could resist the tempting

ing prize which credulity and ignorance exposed to view; the same passions soon pervaded the minds of all, while they lay secretly concealed under the mask of affected humility.

The doctrines which began to be taught in the church about a century after the reign of Constantine, were dark and ambiguous; they superseded the observance of that heavenly and rational religion, which has for its object the happiness of man, and points out the way that leads to it, without prejudice to his senses or his understanding. Religion, combined with sound policy, will always curb the licentiousness of the multitude, by the temperate and steady influence of rewards and punishments; but much of this restraint was now taken off, by the preposterous idea, that initiation by baptism into the bosom of the church, at the close of life, or upon a death-bed, was sufficient to cancel all former guilt, and give an undisputed entrance into the heavenly mansions. A kind of absolution was thus early begun; many persons purchased a claim to heaven by the liberality of their donations. The terrors of superstition operated powerfully upon the trembling wretch who hung upon the verge of eternity, and who had no wish but to compound for the safety of his soul by the sacrifice of his possessions. Nor were the Emperors less prodigal in their favours; they, by their profusion, laid the foundation of that power which tended to subvert, and in after ages rose upon the ruins of the empire of the Cæsars.

During the decay of science and of the arts, the noble monuments of human genius and human industry are gradually forgotten. When the throne of reason is shaken by the arms of enthusiasm and superstition, the gloom of ignorance begins to overcloud the mind, and renders it impervious to any ray of knowledge or of truth. In the long journey of life, mankind lose their way, they follow every glittering phantom that presumes to conduct them towards the haven of rest; and trust implicitely to the guidance of every artful conductor. The cautious and sceptical may hesitate and doubt; but the multitude will blindly admire every hollow but specious appearance, if confirmed by the report of miracles and prodigies. To artifices and legends, fitted to operate upon credulous and ignorant minds, we may in part ascribe the conversion of the rude barbarians of the north. It would appear that their own religion was not an object to which they were firmly attached; the transient impressions which the solemnity of some public religious festivals could make, would be soon effaced by the passionate attachment to war and hunting. It is only when the religion of barbarians is interwoven with the business of life, or employed as an engine of government, that it appears invulnerable. The foundations of both must be sapped at once, by the arm of temporal power before they can be disjoined. Wherever the Romans carried their arms, missionaries followed in their train, or preceded their hostile approach; the barbarians, who were subdued, were received within the pale of the church; they were dazzled by the splendour of its ritual, and awed by the terrors of its superstition: but Christianity obtained a more splendid triumph over the rude minds of those independent and hostile barbarians, who, in their predatory excursions, had carried off vast numbers of people of all ranks, and among these some ecclesiastics, who strove with unwearied zeal to convert their new masters: their effects were not unsuccessful, and their new converts became the most zealous and powerful sons of the church.

To be continued.

Remarks

Remarks on Mr MACKIE'S *Estimate of the proportion between Animal and Vegetable food produced from equal quantities of Land.*

I Have read, with some attention, Mr Mackie's estimate of the difference between the product of land, either solely employed in raising vegetable food, or solely employed in producing animal food respectively, as stated in the Earl of Lauderdale's Inquiry into the Nature and Origin of public Wealth. Not being convinced of the prodigious difference which he makes to appear between these distinct products as applied to the sustenance of mankind, I shall, in a few words, endeavour to point out what appear to me to be errors in the data on which his argument is founded.

First, then, the product of the different crops, according to his proposed system of management, appears to be stated by far too high. Potatoes, he calculates at the average crop of 250 bushels the English acre, each bushel 90 lbs. averdupois wt. This would come to upwards of 65 bolls of 4 cwt. each the Scotch acre, or more than 13 tons. That such a product may, now and then, happen, is not here denied, but to state it as an *average*, (and this must include *soil* as well as *seasons*,) is extravagant, beyond all bounds, even on land the best adapted for them. The product will not on an average of years exceed ½ of that quantity. I appeal on this point to the experience of the farmers in the vicinity of Edinburgh, and where, I apprehend, from what I have seen, that the mode of cultivating this crop is as judicious, if not more so, than in Lancashire, the county he quotes, or any other county in England.

Wheat is stated indeed not quite so very high, but still it must be overstretched at 30 bushels, besides seed, the English acre. This would come to about 10½ bolls the acre Scotch; an average, I should think, that no 504 conterminous acres (the extent of farm he calculates on) in the island will produce; neither can I admit, with him, that a bushel of 58 lbs. of wheat will produce 55 lbs. of flour: I rather think that it will not exceed 47 lbs. fit for nourishment, as may be known by application to any flour miller in the country. In Swinton's Treatise on Weights and Measures (page 50) a work noted for accurate investigation, the quantity of flour obtained from a bushel of wheat 57 lbs wt. is stated at 42 lbs wt. but this I can allow must be understood of flour entirely separated from the bran, which probably after all affords as much nourishment from a given quantity of wheat, as if the greater part of the bran had been retained. Mr Mackie, in stating 46 lbs of meal from a bushel of barley, is perhaps still more extravagant, for there are surely many examples in which the rough grain itself does not amount to that weight. Sixty bushels of oats the English acre, (= 12½ bolls the acre Scotch) is another extravagant average. We must go to the fruitful plains of Sicily, or the fertile banks of the Vistula, before we find such crops. They cannot exist any where else in Europe.

But if his statement of the average produce of all the crops appears extravagant, little less so are the powers of nourishment that he imputes to each. Thus from an actual investigation into this point, in which he went so correctly to work, as to weigh all the potatoe kettles, and count all the mouths in a family, it turned out, that 1½ lbs of raw potatoes is a hearty meal thrice a-day administered,

administered, and 24 meals (equally nourishing, no doubt,) are obtained from a peck of oat meal: and yet he cannot surely be still to learn, that the allowance universally given to labouring men (be they married or unmarried) is, in Scotland, 2 pecks a week (besides *kitchen* as it is called) and hence only 10½ meals from a peck.

But that there must have been some inaccuracy, or, more probably, some want of information, in the above investigation, will appear from this, that the proportion between the given quantities of potatoes and oat meal sufficient for nourishment, does not at all correspond to the proportion between the different prices of these articles in the public market. Thus, while, as at present, the peck of potatoes of 28 lbs. weight averdupois costs eightpence, the peck of meal of 8¾ lbs the same weight, sells at about double that price, it must follow, that if the latter gives, as he states it, 24 meals, it should require 2⅔ lbs. (not 1⅚) of potatoes, to give one meal of an equally hearty nourishment; or if 1⅓ lb. of potatoes is sufficient for a man to dine upon, a peck of oatmeal would dine 42 men equally well; for that the price of the different kinds of ordinary food is in proportion to their respective powers of nourishment can hardly admit of a doubt: for the labouring part of the community would never persevere in consuming one species of it at the higher rate, if they found that they could fare as well on another on lower terms: for instance, they would not give 16 pence for a peck of meal if they found that they could live cheaper on potatoes at eightpence. The proportional nourishment, therefore, contained in different kinds of food in common use may be thus more correctly found from their relative price, (supposing no scarcity of either in the market) than from weighing all the kettles in the kingdom, or from counting all the children in the different houses.

But, perhaps, nothing can more forcibly shew, that the calculations by Mr Mackie have proceeded from erroneous data, than the general result of the whole as stated by himself; in which he makes it appear, that 2,412,746 acres, well cultivated, will maintain as many people (9,000,000 he mentions) living entirely on vegetable food, as 44,475,728 acres, if they were to live on animal food alone. This is somewhat more than as 18 to 1 in favour of the vegetable diet: in other words, that he who lives on animal food is living at 18 times the expence he would do if he lived on bread and other vegetables only, or that one pennyworth of bear-meal, for example, which at the present price may amount to between 10 and 11 ounces, contains as much real nourishment for a man as 18 pennyworth of fat beef, which may amount just now to 3 lbs. Indeed, on this part of the argument Mr Mackie is by no means at variance with himself, for, so far is he from supposing (with I fancy the generality of the beef-eaters) that a pound of meat contains more nourishment than a pound of bread, that he embraces the directly opposite side, and contends, that it contains much less; for when he allows his man of vegetables the 24th part of a peck of meal, or 5⅓ ounces as a complete dinner, or 1lb. in a day, he does not scruple to allow the beef-eater 12 ounces of meat as an equivalent, or 2¼ lbs. in the day.

Before concluding this subject, I must crave permission to make a remark that arises out of what the Right Hon. Author who quotes Mr Mackie has himself said upon it: His words are, "That the number "of inhabitants in Great Britain, "nourished on animal food, has "greatly increased, is notorious.

"The

"The proportion therefore of land "requisite to furnish a man with ani- "mal food, and with vegetable food, "becomes a question of the greatest "importance, and well deserves the "further consideration of our writ- "ers on agriculture; for the solution "of it will give the best, and perhaps "the only possible explanation of that "extraordinary fact, (stated by the "Lords Commissioners of the Coun- "cil, in their report on the corn "laws and corn trade 1790,) that "this country, which, from the "year 1746, to the year 1766, ex- "ported on an average 651,000 "pounds-worth of grain, per an- "num, has not for many years, not- "withstanding its great agricultural "improvements, been able to raise a "sufficiency for its own inhabi- "tants." (see page 440 of the Inquiry into the Nature and Origin of Wealth.) Now, to me it appears, that a much more obvious solution of this question will be found in the encreased population of the country, which, during the last 45 years, has in a very remarkable degree taken place. Thus, from the inquiry into the population of Scotland by Dr Webster in 1755, it appeared that the number was then 1,265,380; but from the late numeration in 1801-2, in consequence of Mr Abbot's bill, the number turned out to be 1,599,068, being an encrease of 333,688, or more than $\frac{1}{4}$ part of the original number in 1755. If we suppose a similar encrease to have taken place in England, in the same period, (and there is surely no reason for supposing that country to have been in a less prosperous state,) the total increase in the whole island can be found from the total number now, viz. 10,942,555, which in the proportion of encrease as above, in Scotland will amount to 2,283,455 of additional inhabitants; a number, if they were to be fed even on the meagre allowance of Mr Mackie, (a pound of meal a-day, which in my mind would hardly serve for bread to their meat,) still it would amount (at the rate only of a shilling the peck) to L.5,209,132 in the year, which will not only solve the question, why we do not now export as formerly to the extent of 651,000l. a year, but leave ground for concluding that the production of corn has kept pace with agricultural improvement, altho' from some calamitous seasons of late there has been a necessity for considerable importation.

That there may now be more animal food used by the people of this island than formerly, ought to be a subject of gratulation, rather than of apprehension, to the country, as it would shew that we are now in circumstances of greater prosperity. But that it has taken place in any remarkable degree ,, I am afraid, a fact that remains still to be proved. There seems, however, to be one circumstance very clear, that, to whatever extravagant rate the price of butchers meat may have arisen in the market, and we all know that it has on many occasions gone to an extremity of dearth, yet it has never, to this day, excited a popular commotion, nor even, among the lower orders, a single murmur. What is this to be ascribed to? Is it because animal food is a less irascible aliment then barley bread, or oatmeal porridge?—or does it not shew decidedly, that, although on particular occasions the common people may indulge on the coarse pieces and offals of the butcher-market, yet that bread-corn continues still to be the chief basis of food to the great body of the people?

RURICOLA.

To the Editor.

The TRAVELLER.

To W. SHAW, *Scroggie-fauld.*

COMPANION of my youth,—weary and fatigued, I sit down to ease a bosom, pregnant with disquiet, but glowing with the warmest love and affection for those whom, perhaps, I never more will embrace;—to you I address myself, partner in all my junior joys, and childish amusements,—to you, the man according to my own heart,

"We twa ha'e paidlet i' the burn
"Frae morning sun till dine."

How comes it to pass, the farther I remove from the land where I first existed, the farther I depart from the graves of my fathers, that I feel more acutely the pangs of our separation, and in secret brood over those joys which I once found amongst the hills of my native soil,— the abode of happiness and peace?

Citizens of the world,—ye who boast of your universal philanthropy, tell me what it was that excited these soul-awakening sensations within me, when I heard our pipers playing "Oure the hill and far awa;" and "Lochaber," "the flowers of the forest," or "Highland Mary," lilted by one of our country lasses?—did they originate from the particles of matter of which I am composed? were they called to existence by the charms of music and poetry? No,—they were the offspring of a cause planted in my heart by the giver of being.

Scotland!—though the Bully * of the South despised thee, and embroidered thy venerable name with the richest lace which either Musselburgh or Billingsgate could afford,—tho' thy Mountains, swept by the storms of the North, are bleak and bare, and thy vallies boast not of Southern plenty, nor Eastern fragrance; still thou art my native country, still thou art Scotland. For thee shall my choicest wishes ascend to the Fountain of Goodness, while the blood of life warms this heart,—for thee will I cheerfully empty these veins drop by drop. What though I be torn from thy bosom by the cruel hand of Necessity, and compelled to seek for subsistance in a land wherein I am a stranger? Do I upbraid thee because thou wast *unkind*? Do I tax thy sons with *ingratitude*? do I rail at thy hills, because they refused to support me; and bedeck them with the name of inhospitable, because they denied me subsistence? No,—roused by that principle which animated the gallant Greeks in their perilous, their masterly retreat,—the love of my native country; Imagination, laughing at space, and spurning the controul of hills and rivers, bounds away amongst thy endearing scenes, traverses thy braes, thy lins, thy glens, and thy cleughs,—the beloved haunts of my youthful days, where rustic simplicity, with a blunt but honest sincerity, welcomes the benighted wanderer, but where

——— "humble worth,
"Pines unrewarded by a thankless state."

Thou wanton cloud, of varying hue,
That glides along the evening sky,
O mantle not yon lovely star,
So beauteous beaming from on high.

Thy cheering ray, thou little star,
A gleam of bless affords to me,
As joyless here I wand'ring roam,
Far from the banks of bonnie Dee.

I now proceed to sketch the outlines

* Dr Johnson.

lines of my journey to Doncaster; and without fatiguing your patience with a description of the country through which I travelled, or a recital of the many pettyfogging incidents which almost hourly occurred, suffice it to say, that, speaking the provincial dialect of Galloway in its *native purity*, and the inhabitants of the land wherein I sojourned expressing themselves in a lingo equally as unintelligible to me as mine was to them, I was frequently at a loss how to make known my wants; but this inconvenience was in some measure counterbalanced by the easy manner in which I settled my reckoning, with a shilling or two in my hand, and the words, *hae, hae*; tho' probably they might not understand what I said, they made a tolerable shift fully to comprehend what I meant. Dejected and solitary, I jogged on as far as the little town of Brough, where I agreed with a fellow who guarded one of the stage coaches to take me along with him to Ferrybridge.

This point being settled, and seated at my ease on the roof of the coach, I was more at leisure to contemplate the surrounding scenery, which is in many instances beautifully romantic; but the limits of a letter will not admit of my describing it. I now fully expected to find amongst my fellow-travellers some of these whimsical eccentrics so frequently met with by Smollet in the like conveyances. I sought them, but I found them not. Likely enough they were all below my notice, I mean in the inside. But this defect in originals was partly made up by a species of two-legged animals, neither mentioned by Linnæus nor Buffon; I allude to that class of mankind commonly called Stage-Coachmen, and their inferior brethren, who assist at the inns to harness and rig out the cattle. They are a set of wretches whose acquaintance no man need boast of. Morality is shocked at their horrid imprecations, and modesty is put to the blush by the brutality of their expressions. In fact, their language, if language it could be called, was such as I might have expected from the mouth of a tortured devil, left to expire upon the rack. Weary with sitting so long in a state of inactivity, benumbed with cold, and almost suffocated with blasphemy,—*pure swearing* I could almost have listened to with pleasure—we at length got to Ferrybridge about two in the morning, where it was customary for the coach to stop a few hours. The low state of my finances would not admit of my enquiring for lodgings at the inn, but the guard, honest man, for the trifling matter of sixpence, kindly permitted me to take up my quarters in the coach during the remainder of the night. Soon as day began to dawn, with a light heart, and a clear conscience, I once more slung my budget to the end of my trusty sapling, and trudged along, chearful and happy as philosophic poverty could make me. Scarcely had I proceeded four miles, when, a little further on, I discovered a man apparently very busy. I soon got up to him; he was a sort of drover, employed to escort a company of bullocks to Doncaster market, and one of them, it seems, when contemplating a field of turnips on the other side of the way, unluckily tumbled into a ditch, and he was endeavouring to pull it out again. I threw down my luggage, to render the poor fellow what assistance I could. He fixed a rope to the horns of the animal, at which he pulled lustily. I got hold of the tail, and was no less active: and what with the creature's struggling, and our exertions; he once more stood upon *Terra firma*. One good turn deserves another: the man told me, that, by turning up a bye-road, which he pointed out, taking the first turn to the left hand, and continuing

ning my route through certain villages, which he prescribed. I would save at least two miles walking; adding by way of encouragement, there was no possibility of missing my road. This was a great object: we parted, and I took his advice. Anxious to get to the place of my destination as soon as possible, I hoisted all the canvas I could crowd, and in less than an hour got to the end of the lane; but what was my surprise, when, on turning to the left, the road which till now had kept pretty much in the form of a beaten track, degenerated all of a sudden into an innumerable *smytrie* of foot paths, and here I was lost. In my heart I almost cursed the poor drover: but Saunders M'Farlane, a respectable Scots chapman, informs me, that the road I should have taken was near the top of the lane; but leading thro' the estate of a neighbouring gentleman, was by his influence put in such a complete state of blockade as almost to elude the vigilance of a native, much more a stranger. Of course the man intended to do me a piece of service, so I owe him no ill will. In all the course of my life, I never was much in love with turning back, and to proceed farther was somewhat dangerous; for I now found myself in the frontier of a large common overgrown with whins. Necessity, thou whip and spur of all daring atchievements! goaded by thee, I was urged on to take an actual survey of my situation, and to thee I am indebted for my knowledge of a man whose memory I will ever revere. Pushing boldly forward, and keeping a sharp look-out from every little eminence which came in my way, I thought I could discern, at a considerable distance, the form of a man in the attitude of cutting down the staple commodity of the waste. To him I repaired, and told my story; but it was in words peculiar to my mother tongue, and *tackered* over as neatly as I could with the English accent. He was not quite so acute as my more northern acquaintance,—he even could not comprehend my meaning. The truth is, speak to a peasant on either side of the Tweed, in a dialect to which he is not daily accustomed; you may just as well attempt to converse with him in the language of the Antediluvians. The old man spoke *Hebrew* and I *High Dutch*, so our conversation had no tendency to edify either of us. We stood for some time smiling and staring alternately at each other, and I saw him enjoy my embarrassment with a kind of satisfaction which I am positive no physiognomist ever took notice of: but seeing a bundle slung over my shoulder to the end of my staff, and frequently mentioning Doncaster, he at length got hold of the thread, which unravelled my mysterious clue. "Ad zouks," cried the old furzcutter, "now I'll lay tha's band ta "Doncaster an' lost tha sen—tha'rt "a stranger, tha shoud never quit a "broad Rampar for fuit pads and near "couts;—bout I zuppose tha's band "ta run the country for zome mis-"deed, an' setting fuit pads an' near "couts to keep tha sen clear o' "Joustice:" and this he pronounced with that cheerful, unaffected air, peculiar to good natured raillery, which always commands a smile, without wounding our feelings; "howsever," continued the old cock, who by his appearance might be about seventy, "I'll zoon zet "tha ta reets, be what tha will."

I candidly confess that I was not only in love with the man, but also with his profession, and had it not been for a parcel of high-mettled ideas, generated by ambition, no doubt, which at times are troublesome enough to keep under due subordination, I willingly would have remained along with my good-humoured spokemate, and cut whins all the days of my life.

life. 'However,' continued he, "I'll zoon zet tha ta rects,—tha zees tha mun howd reet thrai't goss," pointing with his finger, 'till tha comes ta owd Dick Tinslay's Leath keep that on tha reet, an' get our't; stee there tha'll zee't fuit pad that'll tey tha street on tith Rampar. I'll uphowd ta.' Honest soul, this was nearly all Greek to me, but conscious of the goodness of thy heart, and the purity of thy intentions, I thanked thee in the very best English I then could muster, and we parted, *never more to meet in this world*: but thy Sterling injunction, "stranger, quit not the broad high way for the intricate foot path,' shall never be eradicated from my mind,—no: with thy grey hairs I will bind it to my heart, and though parted on earth, we will meet in heaven. His kindness did not end here, standing on a piece of rising ground, he followed me with his eye, alternately exclaiming, "more tith reet," or, "more "tith left," as occasion required. I turned about, and cordially waved my last farewell.

This leath of Dick Tinslay's now occupied the whole of my attention, and whether to look for a house or a hay stack I knew not; but keeping on in the line of direction pointed out by my good old friend, I at length got along side of a large barn (which in this country is denominated a leath) close by the edge of the common, that, agreeable to instructions, I kept on my right, and getting over the stee, or style, found a foot path, which led me directly away to the Rampar, or high way. There are joys in solitude, when the heart is at ease, and the mind at peace with all mankind, which I eagerly seek after with the same avidity as the thirsty hart panteth after the water brooks. I was all alone, not a single companion to tease me with questions, and disturb my tranquillity: so I gave to fancy a roving commission, with full liberty to ramble wherever whim or inclination might lead her. Now, said I to myself, had I met with this said drover about the dusk of the evening, and taken his advice, what would have been the consequence? I confess the question somewhat startled me. I feigned to myself a wanderer turned adrift upon a wild barren heath, under the clouds of a stormy winter night, unacquainted with the adjacent country, and the dispositions of its inhabitants,—I saw him in all the agonies of terror, strolling about in every direction, looking for the habitation of men, but, deceived by every solitary bush; and, exhausted with fatigue of body and mind, he stooped beneath a burthen which human nature no longer could support; or, wandering he knew not where, fell into some unfathomable chasm, not a friend to claim his lifeless corse, nor a tear to bedew his grave. But this, said I, is often the fate of the unwary and the unthinking. Man, in making the tour of life, too frequently deviates from the broad high way of rectitude, and endeavours, by indirect and often dishonest means, to reach the summit of human happiness; when, bewildered amongst the briery wilds of depravity, stung with remorse, and upbraided by that internal, that most valuable of friends, who, smiling at the court-etiquette of the crowned robber, the bloody despot, the merciless oppressor, and despising the discipline of his legions, calmly looks him in the face, and calls him Villain, nor dreads the lash of his resentment. Shunned by mankind, stooping beneath a load of years and infamy, and ready to be thrown into the unfathomable chasm of eternity, the trembling wretch, when too late, has cause to bewail his imprudence and his indiscretion. In this sort of humour I entered the town of Doncaster.

T. M. C.

Account *of the Ancient Border* Moss-troopers, *or* Marauders.

From Scott's Lay of the Last Minstrel.

FULLER includes, among the wonders of Cumberland, "The moss-troopers; so strange is the condition of their living, if considered in their Original, Increase, Height, Decay, and Ruin.

1. "*Original.* I conceive them the same called Borderers in Mr Cambden; and characterised by him to be, a wild and warlike people. They are called Moss-troopers, because dweling in the mosses, and riding in troops together. They dwell in the bounds, or meeting of two kingdoms, but they obey the laws of neither. They come to church as seldom as the 29th of February comes into the kalendar.

2. "*Increase.* When England and Scotland were united in Great Britain, they that formerly lived by hostile incursions, betook themselves to the robbing of their neighbours. Their sons are free of the trade by their fathers' copy. They are like to Job, not in piety and patience, but in sudden plenty and poverty; sometimes having flocks and herds in the morning, none at night, and perchance many again next day. They may give for their motto, *vivitur ex rapto*, stealing from their honest neighbours what they sometimes require. They are a nest of hornets; strike one, and stir all of them about your ears. Indeed if they promise safely to conduct a traveller, they will perform it with the fidelity of a Turkish Janizary; otherwise, wo be to him that falleth into their quarters!

3. "*Height.* Amounting forty years since to some thousands. These compelled the vicenage to purchase their security, by paying a constant rent to them. When in their greatest height, they had two great enemies, the laws of the land, and the Lord William Howard of Naworth. He sent many of them to Carlisle, to that place, where the officer always does his work by day-light. Yet these Moss-troopers, if possibly they could procure the pardon for a condemned person of their company, would advance great sums out of their common stock, who, in such a case, cast in their lots amongst themselves, and all have one purse.

4. "*Decay.* Caused by the wisdom, valour, and diligence, of the Right Honourable Charles Lord Howard, Earl of Carlisle, who routed these English tories with his regiment. His severity unto them will not only be excused, but commended, by the judicious, who consider how our great lawyer doth describe such persons who are solemnly outlawed. Bracton, lib. 3. tract. 2. cap. 11. '*Ex tunc gerunt caput lupinum, ita quod sine judiciali inquisitione rite pereant, et secum suum judicium portent; et merito sine lege pereunt qui secundum legem vivere recusarunt.*' 'Thenceforward (after that they are outlawed) they wear a wolf's head, so that they lawfully may be destroyed, without any judicial inquisition, as who carry their own condemnation about them, and deservedly die without law, because they refused to live according to law.'

5. "*Ruine.* Such was the success of this worthy Lord's severity, that he made a thorough reformation amongst them; and, the ring-leaders being destroyed, the rest are reduced to legal obedience, and so, I trust, will continue." Fuller's Worthies of England, 162, p. 216.

Indenture *to* Single Combat, *by* Musgrave *and* Carleton, *in* 1607.

IT may easily be supposed, that trial by single combat, so peculiar to the feudal system, was common on the Borders. The following indenture will shew at how late a period it was there resorted to, as a proof of guilt or innocence.

"It is agreed between Thomas Musgrave and Lancelot Carleton, for the true trial of such controversies as are betwixt them, to have it openly tried, by way of combat, before God and the face of the world, to try it in Canopy-holm, before England and Scotland, upon Thursday in Easter week, being the eighth day of April next ensuing, A. D. 1602, betwixt nine of the clock, and one of the same day, to fight on foot, to be armed with jack, steel cap, plaite sleeves, plaite breeches, plaite sockes, two baslaerd swords, the blades to be one yard and half a quarter of length, two Scotch daggers or dorks at their girdles, and either of them to provide armour and weapons for themselves, according to this indenture. Two gentlemen to be appointed on the field to view both the parties, to see that they both be equal in arms and weapons, according to this indenture; and being so viewed by the gentlemen, the gentlemen to ride to the rest of the company, and to leave them but two boys viewed by the gentlemen, to be under 16 years of age, to hold their horses. In testimony of this our agreement, we have both set our hands to this indenture, of intent all matters shall be made so plain, as there shall be no question to stick upon that day. Which indenture as a witness, shall be delivered to two gentlemen. And for that it is convenient the world should be privy to every particular of the grounds of the quarrel, we have agreed to set it down in this indenture betwixt us, that knowing the quarrel, their eyes may be witness of the trial.

The Grounds of the Quarrel.

"1. Lancelot Carleton did charge Thomas Musgrave before the lords of her majesty's privy council, that Lancelot Carleton was told by a gentleman, one of her majesty's sworn servants, that Thomas Musgrave had offered to deliver her majesty's castle of Bewcastle to the king of Scots; and to witness the same, Lancelot Carleton had a letter under the gentleman's own hand for his discharge.

"2. He chargeth him, that, whereas her majesty doth yearly bestow a great fee upon him, as captain of Bewcastle, to aid and defend her majesty's subjects therein; Thomas Musgrave hath neglected his duty, for that her majesty's castle of Bewcastle was by him made a den of thieves, and an harbour and receipt for murderers, felons, and all sorts of misdemeanors. The precedent was Quintin Whitehead and Runion Blackburne.

"3. He chargeth him, that his office of Bewcastle is open for the Scotch to ride in and through, and small resistance made by him to the contrary.

"Thomas Musgrave doth deny all this charge; and saith, that he will prove that Lancelot Carleton doth falsely bely him, and will prove the same by way of combat, according to this indenture. Lancelot Carleton hath entertained the challenge; and so, by God's permission, will prove it true as before, and hath set his hand to the same.

(Signed) Thos. Musgrave.

Lancelot Carleton."

General Aspect of the Chinese EMPIRE—*From Barrow's Travels.*

THE stability of the Chinese government; the few changes that have been made in its civil institutions for such a number of ages; the vast extent of empire and immense population, forming one society, guided by the same laws, and governed by the will of a single individual, offer, as Sir George Staunton has observed, "the grandest collective object that can be presented for human contemplation or research." The customs, habits, and manners, the wants and resources, the language, sentiments and religious notions, of "the most ancient society and the most populous empire existing among men," are without doubt most interesting subjects for the investigation of the philosopher, and not unworthy the attention of the statesman. But the expectations of the man of science, the artist, or the naturalist, might perhaps be rather disappointed, than their curiosity be gratified, in travelling through this extensive country. It can boast of few works of art, few remains of ancient grandeur The great wall, that for a time defended its peaceable inhabitants against the attacks of the roving Tartars, the walls of its numerous cities, with their square towers and lofty gates, and here and there an old pagoda, are its only architectural antiquities; and, when these are excepted, there is not perhaps a single building in the whole extent of China that has withstood the action of three centuries. There are no ancient palaces nor other public edifices, no paintings nor pieces of sculpture, to arrest the attention of the traveller, unless it might be from the novelty of their appearance. In travelling over the continent of Europe, and more especially on the classic ground of Italy and Greece, every city, mountain, river, and ruin, are rendered interesting by something on record which concerns them; the theme of some poet, the seat of some philosopher or lawgiver, the scene of some memorable action; they all inspire us with the liveliest sensations, by reviving in the mind those pleasures which the study of their history afforded in early life. To Europeans the history of China has hitherto furnished no materials for such recurrence, and the country itself is therefore incapable of communicating such impressions. In vain should we here look for the massy and stupendous fabrics that appear in the pyramids and the pillars of the ancient Egyptians; the beautiful and symmetrical works of art displayed in the temples of the Greeks; the grand and magnificent remains of Roman architecture; or that combination of convenience and elegance of design which characterize the modern buildings of Europe. In China every city is nearly the same: a quadrangular space of ground is enclosed with walls of stone, of brick, or of earth, all built upon the same plan; the houses within them of the same construction; and the streets, except the principal ones that run from gate to gate, invariably narrow. The temples are, nearly, all alike, of the same awkward design as the dwelling houses, but on a larger scale; and the objects that are known in Europe by the name of pagodas, are of the same inelegant kind of architecture, from one extremity of the empire to the other, differing only in the number of rounds or stories, and in the materials of which they are constructed. The manners, the dress,

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the amusements of the people, are nearly the same. Even the surface of the country, as far as regards the fifteen ancient provinces, is subject to little variation, and especially those parts over which the grand inland navigation is carried; the only parts, in fact, that foreigners travelling in China have any chance of visiting.

Description of PEKIN.—*From the same.*

THE first appearance of this celebrated capital is not much calculated to raise high expectations, nor does it in the least improve upon a more intimate acquaintance. In approaching an European city, it generally happens that a great variety of objects catch the eye, as the towers and spires of churches, domes, obelisks, and other buildings for public purposes towering above the rest; and the mind is amused in conjecturing the form and magnitude of their several constructions, and the uses to which they may be applied. In Pekin not even a chimney is seen rising above the roofs of the houses, which, being all nearly of the same height, and the streets laid out in straight lines, have the appearance and regularity of a large encampment. The roofs would only require to be painted white, instead of being red, green, or blue, to make the resemblance complete. Few houses exceed the height of one story, and none but the great shops have either windows or openings in the wall in front, but most of them have a sort of terrace, with a railed balcony or parapet wall in front, on which are placed pots of flowers, or shrubs, or stunted trees.

Between the south wall, and the corresponding and opposite one on the north side of the city, run two streets perfectly straight, each being four English miles in length, and about one hundred and twenty feet in width. One street also of the same width runs from one of the eastern to the opposite western gate, but the other is interrupted by the north wall of the Imperial city, round which it is carried. The cross streets can be considered only as lanes branching from these main streets at right angles; are very narrow; but the houses in them are generally of the same construction as those in the great streets. The large houses of the state officers are in these lanes.

Although the approach to Pekin afforded little that was interesting, we had no sooner passed the gate and opened out the broad street, than a very singular and novel appearance was exhibited. We saw before us a line of buildings on each side of a wide street, consisting entirely of shops and warehouses, the particular goods of which were brought out and displayed in groupes in front of the houses. Before these were generally erected large wooden pillars, whose tops were much higher than the eves of the houses, bearing inscriptions in gilt characters, setting forth the nature of the wares to be sold, and the honest reputation of the seller; and to attract the more notice, they were generally hung with various-coloured flags and streamers and ribbands from top to bottom, exhibiting the appearance of a line of shipping dressed, as we sometimes see them, in the colours of all the different nations in Europe. The sides of the houses were not less brilliant in the several colours with which they were painted, consisting generally of sky blue or green mixed with gold: and what appeared to us singular enough, the articles for sale that made

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the greatest show were coffins for the dead. The most splendid of our coffin furniture would make but a poor figure if placed beside that intended for a wealthy Chinese. These machines are seldom less than three inches thick, and twice the bulk of ours. Next to those our notice was attracted by the brilliant appearance of the funeral biers and the marriage cars, both covered with ornamental canopies.

At the four points where the great streets intersect one another were erected those singular buildings, sometimes of stone, but generally of wood, which have been called Triumphal Arches, but which, in fact, are monuments to the memory of those who had deserved well of the community, or who had attained an unusual longevity. They consist invariably of a large central gateway, with a smaller one on each side, all covered with narrow roofs; and, like the houses, they are painted, varnished, and gilt in the most splendid manner.

The multitude of moveable workshops of tinkers and barbers, coblers and blacksmiths; the tents and booths where tea and fruit, rice and other eatables were exposed for sale, with the wares and merchandize arrayed before the doors, had contracted this spacious street to a narrow road in the middle, just wide enough for two of our little vehicles to pass each other. The cavalcade of officers and soldiers that preceded the embassy, the processions of men in office attended by their numerous retinues, bearing umbrellas and flags, painted lanterns, and a variety of strange insignia of their rank and station, different trains that were accompanying, with lamentable cries, corpses to their graves, and, with squalling music, brides to their husbands; the troops of dromedaries laden with coals from Tartary, the wheel-barrows and hand carts stuffed with vegetables, occupied nearly the whole of this middle space in one continued line, leaving very little room for the cavalcade of the embassy to pass. All was in motion. The sides of the street were filled with an immense concourse of people, buying and selling and bartering their different commodities. The buz and confused noise of this mixed multitude, proceeding from the loud bawling of those who were crying their wares, the wrangling of others, with every now and then a strange twanging noise like the jarring of a cracked Jew's harp, the barber's signal made by his tweezers, the mirth and the laughter that prevailed in every groupe, could scarcely be exceeded by the brokers in the bank rotunda, or by the Jews and old women in *Rosemary Lane*. Pedlars with their packs, and jugglers, and conjurers, and fortune tellers, mountebanks and quack-doctors, comedians and musicians, left no space unoccupied. The Tartar soldiers, with their whips, kept with difficulty a clear passage for the embassy to move slowly forwards; so slow, indeed, that although we entered the eastern gate at half-past nine, it was near twelve before we arrived at the western.

Although an extraordinary crowd might be expected to assemble on such a particular occasion, on the same principle of curiosity as could not fail to attract a crowd of spectators in London, yet there was a most remarkable and a striking difference observable between a London and a Pekin populace. In the former the whole attention and soul of the multitude would have been wrapt up in the novel spectacle; all would have been idlers. In Pekin, the shew was but an accessary: every one pursued his business, at the same time that he gratified his curiosity. In fact, it appeared that, on every day throughout the whole year, there

was

was the same noise and bustle and crowd in the capital of China. I scarcely ever passed the western gate, which happened twice, or oftener, in the week, that I had not to wait a considerable time before the passage was free, particularly in the morning, notwithstanding the exertions of two or three soldiers with their whips to clear the way. The crowd, however, was entirely confined to the great streets, which are the only outlets of the city. In the cross lanes all were still and quiet.

Women in Pekin were commonly seen among the crowd, or walking in the narrow streets, or riding on horseback, which they crossed in the same manner as the men, but they were all Tartars. They wore long silken robes, reaching down to their feet; their shoes appeared to be as much above the common size, as those of the Chinese are under it; the upper part was generally of embroidered satin, the sole consisted of folds of cloth or paper, about an inch thick; they were square in front, and a little turned up. The hair smoothed up on all sides, not very different from that of the Chinese; and though their faces were painted with white lead and vermilion, it was evident their skins were much fairer than those of the former. The Chinese women are more scrupulously confined to the house in the capital than elsewhere. Young girls were sometimes seen smoking their pipes in the doors of their houses, but they always retired on the approach of men.

All the streets were covered with sand and dust: none had the least pavement. The cross lanes were generally watered, which did not appear to be the case in the main streets. A large sheet of water, several acres in extent, within the northern wall, affords to that part of the city, and to the palace, an abundant supply of that element, as does also a small stream which runs along the western wall to that neighbourhood. There are besides abundance of wells; but the water of some of these is so dreadfully nauseous, that we, who were unaccustomed to it, were under the necessity of sending to a distance to obtain such as was free from mineral or earthy impregnations. When mixed with tea, the well water was particularly disgusting.

It took us full two hours, as I before observed, in passing from the eastern to the western gate of Pekin. The clouds of dust raised by the populace were here much denser than on the road, and the smothering heat of the day, the thermometer in our little carts standing at 96°, was almost insupportable. Except the great crowd on every side, we saw little to engage the attention after the first five minutes. Indeed, a single walk through one of the broad streets is quite sufficient to give a stranger a competent idea of the whole city. He will immediately perceive that every street is laid out in the same manner, and every house built upon the same plan; and that their architecture is void of taste, grandeur, beauty, solidity, or convenience; that the houses are merely tents, and that there is nothing magnificent, even in the palace of the Emperor. Ask a Chinese, however, what is to be seen that is curious or great in the capital, and he will immediately enter upon a long history of the beauties of the palace belonging to *Ta-tsiang-tee*, the mighty Emperor. According to his notions, every thing within the palace walls is gold and silver. He will tell you of gold and silver pillars, gold and silver roofs, gold and silver vases, in which are swimming gold and silver fishes. All, however, is not gold that glitters in China more than elsewhere.

Treatment of Women in China.—*From the same.*

THE Chinese, if possible, have imposed on their women a greater degree of humility and restraint than the Greeks of old, or the Europeans in the dark ages. Not satisfied with the physical deprivation of the use of their limbs, they have contrived, in order to keep them the more confined, to make it a moral crime for a woman to be seen abroad. If they should have occasion to visit a friend or relation, they must be carried in a close sedan chair; to walk would be the height of vulgarity. Even the country ladies, who may not possess the luxury of a chair, rather than walk, suffer themselves to be sometimes rolled about in a sort of a covered wheel barrow. The wives and daughters, however, of the lower class are neither confined to the house, nor exempt from hard and slavish labour, many being obliged to work with an infant upon the back, while the husband, in all probability, is gaming, or otherwise idling away his time. I have frequently seen women assisting to drag a sort of light plough and the harrow. Nieuwhoff, in one of his prints, taken from drawings supposed to be made in China, yokes, if I mistake not, a woman to the same plough with an ass.

In the province of *Kiang-see* nothing is more common than to see a woman drawing a kind of light plough, with a single handle, through ground that has previously been prepared. The easier task of directing the machine is left to the husband, who, holding the plough with one hand, at the same time with the other casts the seed into the drills.

The advantages which those women possess in a higher sphere of life, if any, are not much to be envied. Even at home, in her own family, a woman must neither eat at the same table, nor sit in the same room with her husband; and the male children, at the age of nine or ten, are entirely separated from their sisters. Thus the feelings of affection, not the instinctive products of nature, but the offspring of frequent intercourse and of a mutual communication of their little wants and pleasures, are nipped in the very bud of dawning sentiment.

To beguile the many tedious and heavy hours, that must unavoidably occur to the secluded females totally unqualified for mental pursuits, the tobacco-pipe is the usual expedient. Every female from the age of eight or nine years wears, as an appendage to her dress, a small silken purse or pocket to hold tobacco and a pipe, with the use of which many of them are not unacquainted at this tender age. Some indeed are constantly employed in working embroidery on silks, or in painting birds, insects, and flowers on thin gauze. In the ladies' apartments of the great house in which we lived at Pekin, we observed some very beautiful specimens of both kinds in the pannels of the partitions, and I brought home a few articles which I understand have been much admired; but the women who employ their time in this manner are generally the wives and daughters of tradesmen and artificers, who are usually the weavers both of cotton and silks. I remember asking one of the great officers of the court, who wore a silken vest beautifully embroidered, if it was the work of his lady, but the supposition that his wife should condescend to use her needle seemed to give him offence.

Daughters may be said to be invariably sold. The bridegroom must always make his bargain with the parents of his intended bride. The latter has no choice. She is a lot in the

market to be disposed of to the highest bidder. The man, indeed, in this respect, has no great advantage on his side, as he is not allowed to see his intended wife until she arrives in formal procession at his gate. If, however, on opening the door of the chair, in which the lady is shut up, and of which the key has been sent before, he should dislike his bargain, he can return her to her parents; in which case the articles are forfeited that constituted her price; and a sum of money, in addition to them, may be demanded, not exceeding, however, the value of these articles. These matrimonial processions, attended with pomp and music, are not unlike those used by the Greeks when the bride was conducted to her husband's house in a splendid car; only, in the former instance, the lady is completely invisible to every one.

The unsociable distance which the law, (or custom, stronger than law) prescribes to be observed between the sexes, and the cool and indifferent manner of bargaining for a wife, are not calculated to produce numerous instances of criminal intercourse. These, however, sometimes happen, and the weight of punishment always fall heaviest on the woman. The husband finds no difficulty in obtaining a sentence of divorce, after which he may sell her for a slave, and thus redeem a part at least of his purchase-money. The same thing happens in case a wife should elope, instances of which I fancy are still more rare; as if she be of any fashion, her feet are ill calculated to carry her off with speed; and if a young girl should chance to lose what is usually held to be the most valuable part of female reputation, she is sent to market by her parents, and publicly sold for a slave. In cases of mutual dislike, or incompatibility of temper, the woman is generally sent back to her parents. A woman can inherit no property, but it may be left to her by will. If a widow has no children, or females only, the property descends to the nearest male relation on the deceased husband's side, but he must maintain the daughters until he can provide them with husbands.

Scottish Review.

I. Biographical Account of *Dr James Hutton.* *By Professor Playfair.*

(Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, Vol. V.)

DR HUTTON was the son of a respectable merchant in Edinburgh, who died while he was very young. The care of his education then devolved on his mother, who, resolving to give her son a liberal education, sent him, first to the High-School, and then to the University of Edinburgh. Maclaurin was then by much the most eminent teacher in that seminary; but though Dr Hutton always expressed the highest admiration of his lectures, he did not imbibe any peculiar taste for the mathematics which he taught. The first direction was given to his genius by Dr Stevenson. That gentleman, while lecturing upon *logic*, happened to make some allusion to a chemical fact; upon which the young chemist instantly found himself drawn "by a sort of elective attraction," towards his favourite science. He began presently a search after books, which might not only explain the fact in question, but might afford him further opportunities of carrying on this new study.

His friends, meanwhile, who did not see much profit likely to arise from pursuits of this kind, prevailed

ed on him to enter as apprentice to a writer to the signet. But

> The young man's propensity to study continued, and he was often found amusing himself and his fellow apprentices with chemical experiments, when he should been copying papers, or studying the forms of legal proceedings; so that Mr Chalmers soon perceived that the business of a writer was not that in which he was destined to succeed. With much good sense and kindness, therefore, he advised him to think of some employment better suited to his turn of mind, and released him from the obligations which he had come under as his apprentice.

Being then to chuse another profession, he fixed upon that of medicine, as the most nearly allied to chemistry. Edinburgh not being then, what it has since become, a complete school of medicine; after studying three years there, he repaired to Paris, where he spent two years, and on his return home took the degree of Doctor of medicine at Leyden in September 1749.

On his return to London he became, thro' a common taste for chemistry, intimately acquainted with a *Mr James Davie*, and along with him formed the design of establishing a manufacture of Sal Ammoniac from coal soot. At the same time finding, as he thought, little prospect of success in the practice of medicine, he resolved to abandon it, and to betake himself to agriculture. As the most effectual mode of making himself master of this profession, he went and took up his residence for some time at the house of a farmer in Norfolk. He appears, says Mr Playfair,

> ---to have enjoyed this situation very much: the simple and plain character of the society with which he mingled, suited well with his own, and the peasants of Norfolk would find nothing in the stranger to set them at a distance from him, or to make them treat him with reserve. It was always true of Dr Hutton, that to an ordinary man he appeared to be an ordinary man, possessing a little more spirit and liveliness, perhaps, than it is usual to meet with. These circumstances made his residence in Norfolk greatly to his mind, and there was accordingly no period of his life to which he more frequently alluded, in conversation with his friends; often describing, with singular vivacity, the rural sports and little adventures, which in the intervals of labour formed the amusement of their society.

While residing in Norfolk he made several journeys on foot into different parts of England; and afterwards, with the same view of improving himself in agriculture, set out on a tour through the Low Countries. In performing these journies he began to amuse himself on the road with the studies of geology and mineralogy, to which so much of his attention was afterwards directed. Several observations made at this time are taken notice of in his *Theory of the Earth*.

Having thus acquired the requisite knowledge, he began seriously to apply himself to the practice of agriculture, and with this view, fixed himself on a small property which he possessed in *Berwickshire*. Having brought a plough and ploughman from Norfolk, he introduced the mode of husbandry used in that country. His neighbours were astonished to see this plough drawn by two horses without a driver. The new system however was soon found to succeed, and is now universally adopted.

Here he continued till the year 1768, during which time no incident occurs, except an excursion which he made into the Highlands, with Sir George Clerk, where he seems to have been particularly intent upon geological enquiries. About 1768, finding his farm brought into good order, and no longer taking the same interest in its management, he removed to Edinburgh, and from that time

time gave his whole attention to scientific pursuits. He became also, along with Mr *Davie*, a partner in the manufacture mentioned above, from which he now derived very considerable emolument.

Among other advantages which resulted to him from this change of residence, we must reckon that of being able to enjoy, with less interruption, the society of his literary friends, among whom were Dr Black, Mr Russel professor of Natural Philosophy, Professor Adam Ferguson, Sir George Clerk already mentioned, his brother Mr Clerk of Eldin, Dr James Lind, now of Windsor, and several others. Employed in maturing his views, and studying nature with unwearied application, he now passed his time most usefully and agreeably to himself, but in silence and obscurity with respect to the world. He was, perhaps, in the most enviable situation in which a man of science can be placed. He was in the midst of a literary society of men of the first abilities, to all of whom he was peculiarly acceptable, as bringing along with him a vast fund of information and originality, combined with that gayety and animation which so rarely accompany the profounder attainments of science. Free from the interruption of professional avocations, he enjoyed the entire command of his own time, and had sufficient energy of mind to afford himself continual occupation.

His chief object seems now to have been the completion of his *Theory of the Earth*. With this view he performed a variety of chemical experiments, and, in 1774, made an excursion into part of England and Wales, in order to examine a particular species of gravel which is found there in great abundance.

His first publication was a small pamphlet on the distinction between *Coal* and *Culm*, a question which was then agitated before the Board of Customs, and latterly before the Privy Council, for the purpose of ascertaining the proportion of duty which was to be levied upon each. Mr Playfair states it as ingenious and satisfactory, though conducted perhaps in rather too profound and scientific a manner. To it, however, was in a great measure owing the exemption from duty of the latter article, a regulation which paved the way soon after for others still more beneficial. He took a great share also in promoting the Forth and Clyde navigation. He read several papers at different times in the Philosophical Society, of which he was a member, and which, in 1783, was incorporated into the Royal Society.

The institution of the Royal Society of Edinburgh had the good effect of calling forth from Dr Hutton the first sketch of a theory of the earth, the formation of which had been the great object of his life. From the date formerly mentioned, when he was yet a very young man, and making excursions on foot through the different counties of England, till that which we are now arrived at, a period of about thirty years, he had never ceased to study the natural history of the globe, with a view of ascertaining the changes that have taken place on its surface, and of discovering the causes by which they have been produced.

As this theory is so well known, and has been the subject of so much discussion, we shall decline entering upon it here, but refer our readers to the short summary given by Mr Playfair of its principal tenets, which he is naturally led, by the coincidence of his own opinion, to place in the most favourable point of view.

In the same volume of the transactions appeared a *Theory of Rain*, which our author considers as one of the few speculations in that branch, entitled to the name of *theory*.

He now resolved to undertake journies into different parts of Scotland, in order to ascertain whether that conjunction of granite and schistus which his theory supposed, actually took place. His views were first turned towards the Grampians, which the duke of Athol learning, invited

invited him to accompany him during the shooting season into Glentelt, a tract of country situated in the heart of those mountains. On arriving thither accordingly, he discovered, in the bed of the river Tilt, which runs through this glen, "many veins of red granite traversing the black micaceous schistus, and producing, by the contrast of colour, an effect that might be striking even to an unskilful observer." So vivid were the emotions he displayed at this spectacle, that his conductors never doubted his having discovered a vein of silver or gold.

In the two next years he made, along with his friends the Mr Clerks of Eldin, excursions into Galloway, to the island of Arran, and to the neighbourhood of Jedburgh. In all these places, he discovered the same conjunction, though not in so complete a manner as among the Grampians.

In 1788 he made some other valuable observations of the same kind. The ridge of the Lammer-muir Hills, in the south of Scotland, consists of primary micaceous schists, and extends from St Abb's-head westward, till it join the metalliferous mountains about the sources of the Clyde. The sea-coast affords a transverse section of this alpine tract at its eastern extremity, and exhibits the change from the primary to the secondary strata, both on the south and on the north. Dr Hutton wished particularly to examine the latter of these, and on this occasion Sir James Hall and I had the pleasure to accompany him. We sailed in a boat from Dunglass, on a day when the fineness of the weather permitted us to keep close to the foot of the rocks which line the shore in that quarter, directing our course southwards, in search of the termination of the secondary strata. We made for a high rocky point, or head-land, the Siccar, near which, from our observations on shore, we knew that the object we were in search of was likely to be discovered. On landing at this point, we found that we actually trode on the primeval rock, which forms alternately the base and the summit of the present land.

Mr Playfair continues, with the utmost enthusiasm, to describe this scene, and the impression which it made on himself, and on Sir James. Both these distinguished men appear, on this occasion, to have become final converts to the Huttonian system.

Soon after, Dr Hutton made an excursion to the Isle of Man, where he did not find much to arrest his attention.

But notwithstanding this assiduous attention to geological subjects, he found leisure to speculate on others of a different nature. He had formed a general system both of physics and metaphysics. His opinions on the former subject were very singular. He deprived matter of those qualities which are usually deemed most essential; solidity, impenetrability, and the vis inertiæ. He conceived it to be merely an assemblage of powers acting variously upon each other. Our limits do not admit of our entering into any discussion upon this system, which indeed we know only from the brief abstract given by his biographer.

Soon after, a more voluminous work made its appearance, entitled, "*An Investigation of the Principles of Knowledge, and of the Progress of Reason from Sense to Science and Philosophy*," in three volumes quarto. From this, it appears that his speculations on Mind were equally eccentric with those on matter. He places the primary qualities of matter as well as space, time, and motion, on the some footing with the secondary qualities, and maintains that our conceptions of external objects bear no resemblance to any thing that really exists. Matter possesses merely the power of exciting in our mind certain sensations, and bears to these sensations a relation similar to that which opium and wine bear to intoxication

toxication. Mr Playfair, however, observes;

Dr Hutton has taken great pains to deduce from his system, in a regular manner, the leading doctrines of morality and natural religion, having dedicated the third volume of his book almost wholly to that object. It is worthy of remark, that while he is thus employed, his stile assumes a better tone, and a much greater degree of perspicuity, than it usually possesses. Many instances might be poined out, where the warmth of his benevolent and moral feelings bursts through the clouds that so often veil from us the clearest ideas of his understanding. One, in particular, deserves notice, in which he treats of the importance of the female character to society, in a state of high civilization *. A facility of expression, and a flow of natural eloquence, inspired by so interesting a subject, make us regret that his pen did not more frequently do justice to his thoughts.

Mr Playfair is at great pains to vindicate this hypothesis, from a resemblance to that of Berkley. For our part, however, we cannot see any essential difference between them. If our sensations convey to us no sort of information as to what passes without, it seems of little importance whether they be the result of moral or of physical agency. Of the two, Berkley's system appears to us, on the whole, to be the most simple and philosophical.

One other observation we shall hazard, which is, that, in the whole history of science, we hardly recollect an instance of one person having greatly extended our knowledge, both of the material and intellectual worlds. Nor can this be wondered at, when we consider that the habits requisite for carrying on these two species of study are not only different, but opposite, and perhaps in some degree inconsistent.

Descending from these metaphysical regions, we find that Dr Hutton, while engaged in the publication of the last-mentioned work, was attacked by a dangerous illness. From this, however, he fortunately recovered, and on his Theory of the Earth meeting with a violent attack from Mr Kirwin, he was induced to publish an enlarged edition of it in two volumes octavo. He then began to prepare for the press a work entitled, *Elements of Agriculture*. But scarce had he begun to this new task, when he was seized with another attack of his former illness. Tho' saved from immediate danger, he never recovered his former strength, and after lingering for a few months, expired on the 26th of March 1797. He retained his faculties to the last, and wrote a good deal on the very day he died.

His character we shall give in Mr Playfair's own words

A circumstance which greatly distinguished the intellectual character of the philosopher of whom we now speak, was an uncommon activity and ardour of mind, upheld by the greatest admiration of whatever in science was new, beautiful, or sublime. The acquisitions of fortune, and the enjoyments which most directly address the senses, do not call up more lively expressions of joy in other men, than hearing of a new invention, or being made acquainted with a new truth, would, at any time, do in Dr Hutton. This sensibility to intellectual pleasure was not confined to a few objects, nor to the sciences which he particularly cultivated: he would rejoice over Watt's improvements on the steam-engine, or Cook's discoveries in the South Sea, with all the warmth of a man who was to share in the honour or the profit about to accrue from them. The fire of his expression, on such occasions, and the animation of his countenance and manner, are not to be described; they were always seen with great delight by those who could enter into his sentiments, and often with great astonishment by those who could not.

With this exquisite relish for whatever is beautiful and sublime in science, we may easily conceive what pleasure he

* Investigation of the Principles of Knowledge, Vol. III. p. 583. &c.

he derived from his own geological speculations. The novelty and grandeur of the objects offered by them to the imagination, the simple and uniform order given to the whole natural history of the earth, and, above all, the views opened of the wisdom that governs nature, are things to which hardly any man could be insensible; but to him they were matter, not of transient delight, but of solid and permanent happiness. Few systems, indeed, were better calculated than his to entertain their author with such noble and magnificent prospects; and no author was ever more disposed to consider the enjoyment of them, as the full and adequate reward of his labours.

As he was indefatigable in study, and was in the habit of using his pen continually as an instrument of thought, he wrote a great deal, and has left behind him an incredible quantity of manuscript, though imperfect, and never intended for the press. Indeed his manner of life, at least after he left off the occupations of husbandry, gave him such a command of his time, as is enjoyed by very few. Though he used to rise late, he began immediately to study, and generally continued busy till dinner. He dined early, almost always at home, and passed very little time at table; for he ate sparingly, and drank no wine. After dinner he resumed his studies, or if the weather was fine, walked for two or three hours, when he could not be said to give up study, though he might, perhaps, change the object of it. The evening he always spent in the society of his friends. No professional, and rarely any domestic arrangements interrupted this uniform course of life, so that his time was wholly divided between the pursuits of science and the conversation of his friends, unless when he travelled from home on some excursion, from which he never failed to return furnished with new materials for geological investigation.

To his friends his conversation was inestimable; as great talents, the most perfect candour, and the utmost simplicity of character and manners, all united to stamp a value upon it. He had, indeed, the genuine simplicity, originating in the absence of all selfishness and vanity, by which a man loses sight of himself altogether, and neither conceals what is, nor affects what is not. This simplicity pervaded his whole conduct; while his manner, which was peculiar, but highly pleasing, displayed a degree of vivacity, hardly ever to be found among men of profound and abstract speculation. His great liveliness, added to this aptness to lose sight of himself, would sometimes lead him into little excentricities, that formed an amusing contrast with the graver habits of a philosophic life.

Though extreme simplicity of manner does not unfrequently impart a degree of feebleness to the expression of thought, the contrary was true of Dr Hutton. His conversation was extremely animated and forcible, and, whether serious or gay full of ingenious and original observation. Great information, and an excellent memory, supplied an inexhaustible fund of illustration, always happily introduced, and in which, when the subject admitted of it, the witty and the ludicrous never failed to occupy a considerable place.—But it is impossible by words to convey any idea of the effect of his conversation, and of the impression made by so much philosophy, gaiety, and humour, accompanied by a manner at once so animated and so simple. Things are made known only by comparison, and that which is *unique* admits of no description.

The whole exterior of Dr Hutton was calculated to heighten the effect which his conversation produced. His figure was slender, but indicated activity; while a thin countenance, a high forehead, and a nose somewhat aquiline, bespoke extraordinary acuteness and vigour of mind. His eye was penetrating and keen, but full of gentleness and benignity; and even his dress, plain, and all of one colour, was in perfect harmony with the rest of the picture, and seemed to give fuller relief to its characteristic features.

The friendship that subsisted between him and Dr Black was a distinguishing circumstance in the life and character of both. There was in these two excellent men, that similarity of disposition which must be the foundation of all friendship, and, at the same time, that degree of diversity, which seems necessary to give to friends the highest relish for the society of one another.

They both cultivated nearly the same branches of physics, and entertained con-

concerning them nearly the same opinions. They were both formed with a taste for what is beautiful and great in science; with minds inventive, and fertile in new combinations. Both possessed manners of the most genuine simplicity, and in every action discovered the sincerity and candour of their dispositions; yet they were in many things extremely dissimilar. Ardour, and even enthusiasm, in the pursuit of science, great rapidity of thought, and much animation, distinguished Dr Hutton on all occasions. Great caution in his reasonings, and a coolness of head that even approached to indifference, were characteristic of Dr Black. On attending to their conversation, and the way in which they treated any question of science or philosophy, one would say that Dr Black dreaded nothing so much as error, and that Dr Hutton dreaded nothing so much as ignorance; that the one was always afraid of going beyond the truth, and the other of not reaching it. The curiosity of the latter was by much the most easily awakened, and its impulse most powerful and imperious. With the former, it was a desire which he could suspend and lay asleep for a time; with the other, it was an appetite that might be satisfied for a moment, but was sure to be quickly renewed. Even the simplicity of manner which was possesed by both these philosophers, was by no means precisely the same. That of Dr Black was correct, respecting at all times the prejudices and fashions of the world; that of Dr Hutton was more careless, and was often found in direct collision with both.

The same parallel is drawn in a manner equally masterly, by Dr Ferguson, in his life of Black.

It may be difficult to say, whether the characters of Black and Hutton, so often mentioned together, were most to be remarked for resemblance or contrast. Both profound in physical science, and rigid adherents to fact, in exclusion of hypothesis or vain conjecture. Both of consummate humanity and candour. Black was serious, but not morose; Hutton playful, but not petulant. The one never cracked a joke, the other never uttered a sarcasm. Black was always on solid ground, and of him it might be said, *Nil molitur inepte.* Hutton, whether for pleasantry or serious reflection, could be in the air, speculate beyond the laws of nature, and treat the common notion of body, with its magnitude and figure, as a mistake. In these speculations Black never took any part.

Mr Playfair thus proceeds:

It was not to philosophers and men of science only that Dr Hutton's conversation was agreeable. He was little known, indeed, in general company, and had no great relish for the enjoyment which it affords; yet he was fond of domestic society, and took great delight in a few private circles, where several excellent and accomplished individuals of both sexes thought themselves happy to be reckoned in the number of his friends. In one or other of these he was accustomed, almost every evening, to seek relaxation from the studies of the day, and found always the most cordial welcome. A brighter tint of gaiety and chearfulness spread itself over every countenance when the Doctor entered the room; and the philosopher, who had just descended from the sublimest speculations of metaphysics, or risen from the deepest researches of geology, seated himself at the tea-table, as much disengaged from thought, as chearful and gay, as the youngest of the company. These parties were delightful, and, by all who have had the happiness to be present at them, will never cease to be remembered with pleasure.

He used also regularly to unbend himself with a few friends, in the little society alluded to in Professor Stewart's Life of Mr Smith, and usually known by the name of the *Oyster Club*. This club met weekly; the original members of it were Mr Smith, Dr Black, and Dr Hutton, and round them was soon formed a knot of those who knew how to value the familiar and social converse of these illustrious men. As all the three posses ed great talents, enlarged views, and extensive information, without any of the stateliness and formality which men of letters think it sometimes necessary to affect; as they were all three easily amused; were equally prepared to speak and to listen; and as the sincerity of their friendship had never been darkened by the least shade of envy; it would be hard to find

an example, where every thing favourable to good society was more perfectly united, and every thing adverse more entirely excluded. The conversation was always free, often scientific, but never didactic or disputatious; and as this club was much the resort of the strangers who visited Edinburgh, from any object connected with art or with science, it derived from thence an extraordinary degree of variety and interest. It is matter of real regret, that it has been unable to survive its founders.

The simplicity of manner that has been already remarked as so strikingly exemplified in Dr Hutton, was but a part of an extreme disinterestedness, which manifested itself in every thing he did. He was upright, candid, and sincere; strongly attached to his friends, ready to sacrifice any thing to assist them; humane and charitable. He set no great value on money, or, perhaps, to speak properly, he set on it no more than its true value; yet, owing to the moderation of his manner of life, and the ability with which his friend Mr Davie conducted their joint concerns, he acquired considerable wealth.

He was never married, but lived with his sisters, three excellent women, who managed his domestic affairs; and of whom, only one, Miss Isabella Hutton, remained to lament his death.

In his philosophical character, the chief features seem to have been accuracy of observation, united with great ingenuity and activity of mind.

Long and continued practice had increased his powers of observation to a high degree of perfection; so that, in discriminating mineral substances, and in seizing the affinities or differences among geological appearances, he had an acuteness hardly to be excelled. The eulogy so happily conveyed in the Italian phrase, of *osservatore oculatissimo*, might most justly be applied to him; for, with an accurate eye for perceiving the characters of natural objects, he had in equal perfection the power of interpreting their signification, and of deciphering those ancient hieroglyphics which record the revolutions of the globe. There may have been other mineralogists, who could describe as well the tracture, the figure, the smell, or the colour of a specimen; but there have been few who equalled him in reading the characters, which tell not only what a fossil *is*, but what it *has been*, and declare the series of changes thro' which it has passed. His expertness in this art, the fineness of his observations, and the ingenuity of his reasonings, were truly admirable.

He read few speculative books, confining himself almost entirely to those which contained matters of fact, and furnished the materials of speculation. His favourite reading was voyages and travels. His style was singularly defective. Dr Ferguson observes,

Though uncommonly luminous and pleasant in conversation, he was obscure, unintelligible, and dry in writing, to an equal degree. His favourite specimens of natural history, he used to say, were GOD's Books, and he treated the books of men comparatively with neglect. This may, in some measure, account for his want of style or his indifference to language. In company, he spoke to be understood by such as were present, and when obscure, was called upon to explain himself. But alone, he was not aware that others could be at a loss for a meaning so clear to himself. From this circumstance, (notwithstanding many volumes written in the last years of his life, more numerous, perhaps, than all he ever read that were written by others, except the voyages and travels, from which he was perpetually collecting facts to complete his view of the terrestrial system,) his very ingenious conceptions, to be received as they ought, must come from some other pen than his own.

It is not improbable, that the account of Dr Hutton's character, which Mr Playfair has given, may be somewhat panegyrical, and that he may have been led, by friendship and delicacy, to throw a veil over any defects which may have attached to it. One we cannot help suspecting; a want of stability and perseverance, which seems to be indicated by his frequent changes, both of profession and of literary pursuit.

Nor

Nor in his philosophical capacity, will it be easy to acquit him entirely of eccentricity and love of paradox. He delighted, it would seem, to speculate on subjects to which the human understanding is hardly competent; and in these, to support the opinions which were boldest, and most remote from common apprehension. Black, though his parts might be less shining, will probably be found, of the two, to have conferred the most solid and permanent benefits on the world of science.

The narrative is written in an elegant and pleasing manner, and proves that Mr Playfair, amid his severer studies, has not neglected the cultivation of taste, and the graces of style.

II. Thoughts on the alarming State of the Circulation, and on the Means of Remedying the Pecuniary Grievances of *Ireland*. By the *Earl* of *Lauderdale*. 8vo. 122 pages. Constable and Co. Edinburgh; Longman and Co. London, 1805.

AS the subject of this interesting pamphlet has been announced for discussion in parliament, and as there are several points in it, on which we are not prepared to form a decided opinion, we shall forbear passing any judgment upon it, and shall only present our readers with the following brief analysis of its contents. The opinions therefore which are stated throughout are to be understood, not as our own, but as those of the author.

The source of the evils which his Lordship here proposes to point out, may, in his opinion, be traced to the restriction on the payments in bullion by the Bank of Ireland, which was imposed soon after a similar measure had been resorted to in England. Of the latter measure, he admits the necessity, but contends, that none such existed in regard to Ireland. The consequence appears to have been, that while the notes of the Bank of England have encreased from L.10,416,520 to L.17,920,450, and have suffered a depreciation of 2 or 2½ per cent. those of Ireland have encreased from L 600,000 to L.3,000,000 and have suffered a depreciation of 9, 10, and 10½ per cent. This striking difference is imputed by his Lordship to the obligation laid on the Bank of Ireland to discount bills at 1 per cent. under the legal and market rate of interest; at 5, instead of 6 per cent. This has always occasioned an extraordinary demand for their notes. The Bank, however, was formerly extremely cautious of issuing too many, or, if at any time they did so, the surplus quantity soon returned upon them. But upon their payments being stopt, while they still continued to discount at the same rate of interest, the demand still continued, without any check remaining upon the excessive issue which it produced.

The bad effects of this are stated to be,

1. That the nominal exchange between London and Dublin has arisen from L. 0 7 : 1, the average of three months ending in December 1797, to L. 11 : 3 : 7, the average of three months, ending March 1804 *:

2. That gold has disappeared from circulation, except in the northern parts of Ireland; and that the silver coin has gradually been displaced by small paper notes (technically

* See Appendix (A. 1.), Exchange Committee. It may be necessary to mention, that the par of exchange between England and Ireland has long been understood to be 8⅓ per cent. or L 108 : 6 : 8 Irish for L. 100 English. The difference is founded on the state of the copper money, of which 13d. is worth one shilling English.

nically termed silver notes,) or by a base coinage, the best shillings of which may be worth about sixpence, and the sixpence worth about three pence*,

His Lordship's object is, therefore, to explain the causes and remedy of these evils. The subject is treated under the following heads:

I. That the difference existing between the value of gold, and the paper of the Bank of Ireland, arises from the depreciation of its paper. If it does not, then it must be owing to a rise in the value of gold; a supposition which his Lordship proves at great length to be altogether preposterous.

II. That the increase of Bank paper is the sole cause of its depreciation. This Lordship urges

That an over issue of paper is the only means by which the notes of a Bank can be depreciated, as long as its credit is unimpeached, and the belief universal of its powers to discharge all demands. On this principle, as the solvency of the Bank of Ireland never was doubted, and as the increased dividends, as well as the *bonus* lately given to its Proprietors, are calculated to create a belief in the prosperity of its concerns, we might be entitled to pronounce, that the existing depreciation of its notes, which seems established by the foregoing reasoning, must solely arise from the quantity thrown into circulation; and the knowledge that the amount of its paper has actually been augmented from six hundred thousand pounds to three millions, would enforce and confirm that opinion.

To those whom this argument may not satisfy, he points out also the rise in the exchange. This has been attempted to be accounted for by supposing a large balance of debt owing to Ireland. In answer, his Lordship observes, that there is no reason to suppose this, since the imports have for some years past greatly exceeded the exports, in proof of which, he gives the following table.

Annual Average of the Exports and Imports of Ireland for five years, ending 25 March, 1799, and for five years, ending 5 January 1804 †.

	Imports	*Exports*
5 years, ending 25 March 1799 - - - - -	L.4,205,348	4,071,816
5 years, ending 5 Jan. 1804 - - - - -	5,627,482	4,432,472
Average yearly increase of Imports in 5 years, ending 5 Jan. 1804	L.1,422,134	
Decrease of Exports - - - - -		239,343

A balance of debt, if it really existed, would soon occasion a great encrease in the exports from Ireland, in the same manner as the remittances to Germany during last war raised our exports to that country from L. 1,500,000 to 8,000,000 yearly. But instead of an encrease, a decrease has taken place. The proximity too of England and Ireland could not fail to prevent so great a rise in the exchange; since specie could be transmitted from England to Dublin at an expence of little more than 1 per cent. His Lordship then brings forward the example of the American states, where a depreciation of currency unquestionably took place; and shews, that the symptoms attending it were precisely the same which Ireland now exhibits. He observes also, that in Scotland, where there has been no restriction, "the exchange has remained steadily at the same rate," and "Bank paper has not been in the least depreciated."

III. That the reduction of the quantity of Bank paper in circulation is the sole remedy for the existing evil. This his Lordship considers as almost self-evident, since the diminution of any thing is the only remedy for its excess. As several other plans however have been proposed, and even acted upon, he thinks it proper to enter into a short examination of them.

The

* See Minutes of Evidence, p. 77, 82, 93.

† See Appendix No 12, Minutes of the Irish Exchange Committee.

The union of the Banks of England and Ireland would certainly raise the notes of the latter in value, but would as certainly depress those of the former.

The increasing the severity of the laws against counterfeiting coin is not thought deserving of any notice whatever.

A plan has been announced by the Irish Exchequer, of drawing bills on London, at 10 per cent., which is considerably lower than the natural course of exchange. This must certainly lower the exchange, and thus, in appearance, palliate one of the symptoms which attended the depreciation of the currency. But it cannot remove that depreciation; it must be attended with considerable expence to government: and his Lordship endeavours to shew, that it will be productive of no advantage to the Irish subjects.

The next plan is to issue dollars at the rate of 6s. each. Their value being thus adjusted to that of Bank notes, the latter cannot be employed as a means of withdrawing them from circulation. But there still remains a currency of small silver, which, the author conceives, may do the same thing as effectually. The paper currency besides is continually varying in its value.

The last expedient is the annihilation of all notes under 20s. commonly called silver notes. This is admitted by the author to be a good measure in itself, as such notes are attended with great inconvenience, and occasion numerous forgeries. But though good in itself, it would, he conceives, in the present circumstances, do more harm than good. For all the silver coin now circulated is counterfeit, and must continue so, as long as the paper currency is depreciated. These notes therefore, if withdrawn from circulation, must either be replaced by counterfeit coin, or must leave a vacuum in the circulating medium.

All these methods being rejected, his Lordship infers, that the only effectual means of remedying the evil is to reduce the quantity of paper, and that such a reduction will assuredly produce the desired effect. This he illustrates by the examples of New England, of Barbadoes, of the two Scotch Banks in 1762. and of the Bank of England at the end of the 17th century.

IV. Of the means of effecting a reduction of the paper of the Bank of Ireland.

The first and most indispensable is to remove that which has been the principal cause of its excessive issue, viz. the obligation to discount at 1 per cent. under the current rate of interest. After this his Lordship mentions three extraordinary ways in which Banks may reduce the quantity of their paper. These are,

1. Calling in the debts due by the government, for in every country it has been found to be the greatest debtor of the public Bank; and this is a measure which can give rise to no extended mercantile distress. It was one of the means, in conjunction with others, successfully resorted to by the Bank of England in the year 1696.

2. Borrowing money on loan is a method, by which a Bank may call in its notes without the hazard of distressing its creditors. It was used for this purpose by the banks in Scotland in 1762; and the Directors of the Bank of England seem to have been at one time so desirous of constantly possessing extraordinary means of calling in their notes, as to agree annually for a loan to the extent of a million (usually called the circulation) payable at any time within the year when called for, on which account 20 per cent. was to be deposited by the subscribers, to be forfeited on failure of payment, if a call was made.

3. Increasing the capital of the Bank. This manner of calling in their notes was practised with benefit both by the Banks in Scotland and the Bank of England, under circumstances similar to those of the Bank of Ireland.

If it be asked, which of these measures ought to be preferred as the easiest and speediest means of reducing the circulation, and

and restoring the credit of the Bank of Ireland, the reasonable answer appears to be, *any* or *all*; and that it is indifferent which of them be selected, as the reduction of the paper, not the means by which it is reduced, is the only thing essential to restore credit.

The next question is, to what extent the reduction ought to be carried? The criterion proposed is, that it shall be continued until the increase, subsequent to the restriction, shall be in the same proportion to that which has taken place in during the same period. Thus as the notes of the Bank of England have increased from L. 10,416,520 to L. 17,920,450, those of the Bank of Ireland may be allowed to increase from L. 600,000, to L. 1,000,000. But they amount at present to L. 3,000,000. 2,000,000 therefore must, upon this principle, be withdrawn from circulation. It is therefore suggested, that

The reduction of L. 2,000,000 which on this principle would become necessary, might perhaps be most readily effected by compelling Government to pay in bank notes what may be due by them *. The capital of the Bank may then be increased to the extent of one half of the sum that remains to be recalled; and the other half may be provided for by opening a loan. For example, if it should appear that Government owes the Bank 600,000; notes to that extent may be recalled by enforcing payment of that sum. L. 700,000 of the remaining L. 1,400,000 may be withdrawn, by the capital of the Bank being increased to that extent; and the other L. 700,000 may be taken out of circulation by a loan.

Scottish Literary Intelligence.

THE following works have been lately published in Edinburgh.

1. Encyclopedia Britannica, or Universal Dictionary of Arts and Sciences, Vol. I. Part I. Fourth edition, greatly improved, 4to. 15s.

2. Decisions of the Court of Session, from 12 November 1803 to 12 November 1804, collected by J. H. Forbes and John Jardine, Esqs. Advocates; by appointment of the Faculty of Advocates.

3. Tracts on East India affairs, viz. Collegium Bengalense, a Latin Poem, and an English Dissertation on the best means of propagating the Christian religion throughout the Eastern world. By George Chapman, L. L. D. 4to. 1s.

4. Britain's Confidence in perilous times, a sermon, by the Rev. William Bennet. 8vo. 1s.

5. Vol. VII. of a System of the Form of Deeds used in Scotland, being a supplementary volume, containing an Index to six volumes, and a concentrated View of Deeds, 8vo.

6. Thoughts on the alarming state of the circulation, and on the pecuniary grievances of Ireland, by the Earl of Lauderdale. 8vo. 3s. 6d.

7. Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, vol. V. Part III. containing the following articles:

Disquisitions on the origin and radical sense of the Greek Prepositions, by Mr James Bonar.

Thoughts on the Contraction of water by heat, by Dr Thomas Charles Hope.

History of the Society, including the Lives of Dr Hutton and Dr Black.

8. Choix de Literature. Par M. Dufresne, 8vo. 7s. 6d.

Lord Lauderdale has in the Press another pamphlet, entitled "Hints to the Manufacturers of Great Britain, on the consequences of the Irish Union, and the measures since annually adopted of borrowing in England for the service of Ireland."

Mr Jameson is about to present the public with a Mineralogical Survey of Scotland; the first part of which, being the Survey of Dumfriesshire, will soon make its appearance. The able manner in which Mr Jameson has delineated the mineralogy of the Western Isles cannot fail to create a prepossession in favour of this new undertaking.

Mr M. Laing has in the press an edition of the Poems of Ossian, and of the

* Though Mr Colville states in his Evidence, that the Bank has been liberal in accommodating Government, the sum of its advances does not appear in any part of the Proceedings of the Committee.

the other poetical and prose works of Macpherson, with notes and illustrations. Considering the opinions expressed by this gentleman, our readers may perhaps be surprised at finding him engaged in this task; at the same time, they can have no doubt of his being well qualified to fulfil it.

A third edition is preparing, of Mr Moir's Vade Mecum, a small Latin Dictionary, very useful for beginners.

J. Morison of Perth has announced the re-publication of a curious old book, entitled, "The Craftsmen's Banner, or History of the Blue Blanket," containing a satisfactory account of the origin of the Incorporated Trades in Scotland, and many singular historical Facts connected with that subject.

Mr Park, the celebrated traveller, has again left this country, with a view of prosecuting his discoveries in Africa.

Celestial Phenomena *for* March 1805.

IN the course of this month there will be three Moons; the first terminating on the first of March at 16 minutes after 10 o'clock in the morning, the second terminating on the 30th at 40 minutes after ten o'clock in the evening, and the third commencing at the same time.

Sunday, March 3d.

About 17 minutes after 4 o'clock in the morning the *third* and *fourth* satellites of Jupiter will be in conjunction on the right hand of the planet. The first is situated on the same side but nearer Jupiter, and the second on the other side of his disc.

Tuesday, March 5th.

All the satellites of Jupiter will be situated on the western side of his disc, in the same order as they lye in the system, a little after 4 o'clock in the morning.

Wednesday, March 6th.

About 45 minutes and 53 seconds after three o'clock in the morning the second satellite of Jupiter will immerge into his shadow.

Thursday, March 7th.

The planet Venus is situated in longitude 10^s..25^0..40′..13″, and latitude 1^0..2′..58″ south. Her declination is 13^0..58′ south, and she will come to the meridian about 40 minutes after 10 o'clock in the morning.

Sunday, March 10th.

The planet Mars will be stationary in longitude 3^s..29^0..42′..10″ and latitude 3′..37″ North. His declination is about 23^0..46′ North, and the time of his southing 8^h..41′.

Monday, March 11th.

The Georgium Sidus is at present situated in longitude 6^s..20^0..2′..58″, and latitude 39 minutes N. His declination is 7^s..15^0..3′ south, and he will south at 43 minutes after one o'clock in the morning.

Wednesday, March 13th.

The planet Saturn is at present situated in longitude 6^s..14^0..22′..51″, and latitude 2^0..43′..49″ North. He is 3^0..9′..4″ south of the equator, and he will come to the meridian at 22 minutes after one o'clock in the morning. (See phenom. March 25.)

Saturday, March 16th.

The first satellite of Jupiter will immerge into his shadow at 18 minutes and 44 seconds after 3 o'clock in the morning.

Tuesday, March 19th.

About a quarter past four o'clock in the morning, the *first* and *fourth* satellites of Jupiter will be in conjunction on the western side of his disc. The second and third are placed at a greater distance, the second being nearest the planet.

Wednesday, March 20th.

The Sun will enter the Vernal equinox, or the sign *Aries*, at 44 minutes after 12 o'clock in the evening. His longitude will then be 0 signs.

On the same day, about 22 minutes and 26 seconds after one o'clock in

in the morning, the third satellite of Jupiter will emerge from behind his shadow.

Thursday, March 21st.

(OCCULTATION OF ANTARES BY THE MOON.)

The Moon will eclipse *Antares*, or *α Scorpius*, a star of the 1st magnitude, situated in the Scorpion's heart, in longitude 8ˢ. 7°. 2′.44″, and latitude 4°..32′..17″ south. The star will immerge behind the enlightened limb of the Moon at 58 minutes after 3 o'clock in the morning, when it will be situated almost on a level with the Moon's center. After continuing eclipsed for the space of 1ʰ.. 25′, *Antares* will emerge from behind the western, or obscure limb of the Moon, at 23 minutes after five o'clock in the morning, at which time it is situated about one minute south of the Moon's center. At the time of this occultation the enlightened will be to the obscure part of the Moon's disc as 8.347 to 3.6533 and as she is past the full, the eastern part of her disc will be illuminated. The Moon's horizontal parallax will then be 54′..25″: her horizontal semidiameter 14′..49″, and she will come to the meridian about 5 o'clock in the morning.

Saturday, March 23d.

The planet JUPITER will be stationary in longitude 8ˢ..6°..18′..3″, and latitude 38′..5″ north. His declination is then 20°..26′ south, and the time of his southing 4ʰ..2′ in the morning.

Monday, March 25th.

The RING OF SATURN is gradually opening. The transverse is to the conjugate diameter of the Ring as 1000 to 197, or nearly as 5 to 1, and the northern side of the ring will be visible.

Wednesday, March 27th.

The *third* satellite of Jupiter will immerge into his shadow at 16 minutes and 53 seconds after 3 o'clock in the morning.

Thursday, March 28th.

About 17 minutes after 4 o'clock in the morning, the *third* and *fourth* satellites of Jupiter will be in conjunction on the eastern side of his disc. The second is situated on the same side, but nearer Jupiter, and the first on the other side of his disc.

Saturday, March 30th.

The *second* satellite of Jupiter will immerge into his shadow at 48 minutes and 45 seconds after 12 o'clock in the evening.

Sunday, March 31st.

The planet MERCURY will arrive at his superior conjunction with the Sun about 47 minutes after 5 o'clock in the evening.

Monday, April 1st.

About 38 minutes and 43 seconds after one o'clock in the morning the *first* satellite of Jupiter will immerge into his shadow.

Murrayfield, Feb. 23. 1805. } *D. E.*

Memoirs of the Progress of MANUFACTURES, CHEMISTRY, SCIENCE, *and the* FINE ARTS.

FROM several experiments on sound, by Mr GOUGH, the following important maxims in acoustics may be deduced, viz. "that the range of a sound may be extended by enlarging the vibrating surface, while the magnitude of the impulse remains the same." It would appear also from the same experiments, that the voices of animals, as well as the notes of musical instruments, and the reports produced by blows given to less elastic substances, derive no inconsiderable portion of their respective forces from the vibrations of parts not directly concerned in the pro-

production of the primary sound. This may be proved by stretching a wire by two pins, fixed into a bad conductor, such as a block of stone. The sound produced in this way is much weaker than that of an equal wire similarly stretched upon a board, which is a better conductor.

An instrument for equalizing the pressure, and efflux of non-elastic fluids has been invented by Mr Jos. Stevens. A drawing and description of it may be seen in the Philosophical Magazine, vol. 20. p. 289.

On the 13th December 1803, a large meteoric stone, weighing three pounds and a quarter, fell in a barn, in the village of St Nicholas; it had a thin blackish crust, which seemed to be bituminous, on the fracture it was of an ash gray colour, earthy, and resembling hardened clay, but without any smell. When analyzed, it contained native iron, or iron in the metallic state, which appeared in the form of small shining particles;—martial pyrites in small bright grains, which when pounded gave a black powder;—different flattened masses of a black and dark brown colour, which were distinguished by their hardness, and were exceedingly bright; some small grains of a cubical form, and small yellowish transparent leaves or lamina with *glas glanz*, which had the appearance of quartz, but not so hard. By means of the microscope yellowish white metallic points were visible, which resembled the magnet, and which probably were metallic nichel. The chemical analysis of 10,000 grains gave:—Iron in the metallic state 1800, brown oxide of iron 2540, regulus of nichel 1350, magnesia 3250, silex 1000, the remaining 60 parts seemed to be sulphur.

It appears from *Saussure*'s researches on vegetation, that the atmosphere of which carbonic acid forms a determinate part, and in which a plant vegetates in the light, does not generally change its dimensions, tho' it sometimes experiences little diminutions; that the carbonic acid is destroyed and is replaced by oxygen gas; but that this replacement is not total, being equivalent only to half that which formed the carbonic acid; and that the complement of the volume is owing to the azotic gas which is extracted from the plant. When the carbonic acid is decomposed, its carbon, and one half of its oxygen, enter into the composition of the plant, from which there is exhaled a variable quantity of azotic gas.

The following new method of obtaining pure cobalt has been given by Fromsdorff. Mix four parts of finely pulverised zaffre, with one part of very dry nitrate of potash, and half a part of charcoal powder. Put this mixture into one ignited crucible, by small quantities at a time, and repeat this process for three successive times, by again adding to the detonated residuary mass new quantities of nitrate of potash and charcoal. This being done, mix the mass with one part of black flux, and expose the mixture for an hour, to a red heat. When cooled, separate the metallic cobalt; pulverise it; mix it with three times its own weight of nitrate of potash, and detonate this mixture as before directed. The iron which was present will thus become highly oxidized; and the arsenic acidified and combined with the potash. In order to separate the latter, pulverise the mass, treat it repeatedly in water, and separate the insoluble part by the filter. The arseniate of potash being thus removed, digest the residue in nitric acid; the cobalt will now be dissolved, and the highly oxidized iron remain untouched. Evaporate the solution to dryness, re-dissolve it in nitric, re-filtre the solution, lest some oxids of iron should have escaped unseparated; decompose the solution

lution of nitrate of cobalt by potash, wash the precipitate and reduce it by heat

According to the analysis of CHAS. HATCHETT, Esq. 200 grains of *stick lac* contain of colouring extract 20 grains; resin 136; vegetable gluten 11; wax, with a little colouring extract, 12; extraneous substances 13; *sum* 192.—200 grains of seed lac contained, colouring extract 5 grains; resin 177; vegetable gluten 4; wax 9; *sum* 195.—500 grains of shell lac yielded, extract 2½ grains; resin 454½; vegetable gluten 14; wax 20. From these analyses it appears that the different kinds of lac consist of four substances, viz. extract, resin, gluten, and wax.

The Imperial Academy of Sciences at Petersburgh have offered a prize of 500 rubles to the philosopher who shall make and communicate to it, the most instructive series of new experiments on light considered as matter; on the properties which he may be authorised to ascribe to it; on the affinities it may appear to have with other bodies, either organic or nonorganic, and on the modifications and phenomena manifested in these substances in virtue of the combinations into which the matter of light has entered with them. The essays to be written in Russian, English, French, German, and Latin, and transmitted before the 1st of May 1806.

In consequence of the discovery of chromatized lead ore in France, the attention of GODIN SAINT MEMIN has been directed to the oxide of chrome, or its combinations with earths, in hopes of finding the elementary green colour, so long wished for by painters, and his labours have been successful. The green of chrome, besides its utility in oil-painting and distemper, may with the necessary quantity of flux be applied immediately on porcelain, and can endure the greatest heat without change. It may be employed for painting on glass, in enamel, and for communicating to chrystal the colour of the most beautiful emerald. The chromate of mercury when analysed contains oxide of chrome 12.6. oxide of mercury 83. difference between the state of oxidation and that of the acidity of chrome 4.4. *Sum* 100.0.

Murrayfield,
Feb. 23. 1805. } *D. B.*

Mode of Making POTATOE BREAD, *in some Parts of the* HIGHLANDS *of* SCOTLAND

From the Farmers Magazine, No. XXI.

AT a time when the price of bread is likely to be so high, and potatoes are so abundant, the following mode of preparing potatoe bread may not be unacceptable to some of your readers.

In the northern highlands of Scotland, they make very good potatoe bread in the following manner:

The potatoes are scraped well when raw, for, if they are boiled, and then peeled, the potatoes do not take consistency.

They are then thoroughly boiled and mashed, with a little salt, and made into the shape of a loaf, or of a large pudding, and laid by to cool for twelve hours.

It is commonly done at night, to be used next day.

When wanted to be used, the potatoes, thus prepared, are cut either into thick slices, and eat with butter put into the middle when hot, or into thin slices and eat as bread. The slices, whether thick or thin, are put on a brander, and very well toasted, and the bread is sweet and wholesome.

REMARKS

Remarks on two Passages in "The Sabbath," a Poem.

To the Editor.

SIR,

THE author of "the Sabbath" espouses with great zeal the cause of unfortunate debtors, and censures, with the utmost severity, the bankrupt law of Scotland. In the poem, p. 28. he paints the hard case of a debtor, who is represented as having languished in prison for a series of years, and yet

—— "condemn'd, condemn'd unheard,
"The party for his judge."

The reader is left to believe that such a thing is not only likely to happen, but actually does happen, in this land of boasted liberty. for, in a note on this passage, the author says, "one most absurdly iniquitous "article of our civil code is that "which confers on creditors a ju-"risdiction over their debtors,— "a jurisdiction extending to the "power of inflicting perpetual im-"prisonment." Before making this assertion in language so strong and unqualified, the author ought certainly to have taken care that it was well founded. But it is not well founded. Creditors have not, in any case, this formidable jurisdiction over their debtors, and least of all, over their honest debtors; and the author will not probably wish it to be understood, that he is pleading the cause of fraudulent bankrupts. It may be admitted in general, that the Scottish law respecting debtors (borrowed from the Roman code) is rigorous: but surely, in a publication that promised to be so generally diffused, it was the duty of the author, if he knew the fact, candidly to have stated the means by which the rigour of the law is tempered,—the action at law termed *Cessio Bonorum*. This action must be sued before our supreme court: the debtor must set forth, that he is imprisoned for debt which he is unable to discharge, but that his inability to pay has been the consequence of innocent misfortune; and that he has surrendered his whole estate or effects, to be divided among his creditors. The Court of Session cannot refuse to discharge such a debtor, except his creditors positively establish fraud against him. It is not to be doubted that liberal and humane men, (such as the judges of our supreme court unquestionably are,) will ever be inclined to favour the liberation of the unfortunate debtor; and that they will therefore require the clearest proof of fraud before they consent to his detention in prison. The author, indeed, seems not to have been aware of this part of our law; for he says (p. 127.) "If a man be a fraudu-"lent bankrupt, let him be punish-"ed, but let him first be tried, not by "a disappointed and irritated credi-"tor, but by the tribunals before "which other crimes are tried."

What the author here lays down as an improvement, is, in fact, already the law of the country; (only, instead of the court of Justiciary, the court of Session is the tribunal before which the crime of fraudulent bankruptcy is tried:) and the "disappointed and irritated credi-"tor" must first satisfy the judges of that court that the debtor is a cheat, not indeed before he can imprison him, but before he can protract his imprisonment. It is proper further to state, that if the debtor be so poor, or so destitute of "friends *," as to be unable to pay the expence of the action of *cessio*, the court does, upon application for the

* "For still he has some friends."——*Sabbath.*

that purpose, appoint a counsel and agent (as the barrister and solicitor are here termed) to sue the case *gratis*. But even if the creditor bring the clearest proof of the fraud of his debtor, this, as already seen, will not entitle him to condemn the bankrupt to "perpetual imprison-"ment." With the court of session alone it rests, to declare the punishment of fraudulent bankruptcy; and though that high court may, no doubt, inflict any punishment short of death, we may venture to say, that as *perpetual imprisonment* never has been awarded, so most assuredly it never will be.

From debtors the author passes to felons, and takes occasion justly to reprobate the rapidity of Old Bailey trials. Here we heartily agree with him: and shall only remark, that though Mr Cobbet fairly took fright at the tremendous powers of our Lord Advocate, and thanked God that he was born an Englishman; yet that if he were to attend a sessions of the Old Bailey, and see the careless rapidity with which the lives of prisoners are there disposed of,—where sometimes a suspicious-looking fellow is the accuser and sole evidence; and were afterwards to witness the deliberate and scrupulous trial of a prisoner before our court of Justiciary, where a single evidence is not held sufficient to take away life;—that he would doubtless give this part of our Scottish constitution the preference to the corresponding department in England.

I. S.

Books *and* Pamphlets *published in* London *in January* 1805.

Drama.

THE Land we Live in, a comedy; acted the first Time, at Drury-lane Theatre, December 19, 1804. 2s. 6d.

The Theatrical Recorder; by Thomas Holcroft. No 1. (To be continued monthly.) 2s. 9d.

The Blind Bargain, or Hear it Out, a Comedy; by Frederick Reynolds, Esq. 2s. 6d.

Education.

The London Primer, or first Book for Children: intended as an Introduction to Dr Mavor's, and the various other Spelling Books. 6d.

Instructions, or Dialogues between a Parent and his Children, interspersed with original Fables, well adapted to the Capacities of Youth. Small 8vo. with Cuts. 3s. 9d.

An Alphabetical Key to Propria quæ Maribus. Quæ Genus. and As in Præsenti; containing all the Examples, declined and translated, with the rules quoted under each, and numerical References to the Context; by J. Carey, L. L. D. 2s. 6d.

History.

The Rise, Progress, Decline, and Fall, of Bonaparte's Empire in France; by W. Barre, Author of "The History of the French Consulate under Bonaparte." With Portraits, 8vo. 10s. 6d.

Law.

The Trials of Thomas Price and Matthew Crosse, for Perjury, in voting at the late Middlesex Election. 2s.

The Statutes at large; by Pickering. Volume 45. Part I. 13s. boards.

Medical.

The Edinburgh Medical and Surgical Journal, exhibiting a concise View of the latest and most important Discoveries in Medicine, Surgery, and Pharmacy; by a Society of Gentlemen in London and Edinburgh. No. I. (To be continued quarterly.) 3s.

Observations on the Cow Pox, shewing that it originates in Scrophulus; with Cases to prove that it is no security against the Small-Pox, &c. by R. Squirrell, M. D. 2s. 6d.

A Reply to Mr Ellis's two Cases of Gout. By Robert Kinglakes M. D. 2s. 6d.

Duncan's Annals of Medicine, for the Years 1803-4. 8vo. 9s. in boards.

Miscellanies.

The Correspondence between Frances Countess of Hartford (late Duchess of Somerset,) and Henrietta Louisa Countess of Pomfret. 3 Volumes 8vo. Embellished with a Portrait of Lady Pomfret, by Caroline Watson. 1l. 1s.

Harvest Home; consisting, among a great Variety of interesting Matter, of supplementary Gleanings in England, of original Poems, original Dramas, of Sketches of the State of English Artizans, &c. &c. by S. J. Pratt. With a Portrait of the Author. 3 large 8vo. Volumes.

The Society of Friends, or People commonly called Quakers, examined; by John Bristed. 8vo. 6s.

A Letter to the Members of the Proclamation Society, and the Society for the Suppression of Vice. 1s.

An Inquiry into the Origin and Mode of Commencement of the different Wars of Europe, for the last two centuries. To which are added, Authorities upon the Nature of modern Declarations.

A Letter to a Member of the Society for the Suppression of Vice; in which its Principles are examined and condemned. 2s.

A Meteorological Journal of the Year 1804, kept in Paternoster Row, London; by William Bent. 8vo. 1s. 6d.

A General Treatise on Cattle; comprehending the Breeding, Management, Improvement, and Diseases: by John Lawrence, 8vo. 12s. boards.

Novels.

Adeline Mowbray, or the Mother and Daughter. 3 Volumes. 13s. 6d. bds.

Lilm Hlams, or the Life and Errors of my Uncle, with the Amours of my Aunt; consisting of Extravaganzas, &c. With Caricature Engravings. 3 Volumes small 8vo. 18s. boards.

Men and Women; by the Author of "What you Please," &c. 3 Volumes. 13s. 6d. boards.

Political Economy.

An Essay on the Impolicy of a Bounty on the Importation of Corn; and on the Principles which ought to regulate the Commerce of Grain. 2s. 6d.

The Twenty-third Report of the Society for Bettering the Condition of the Poor. 1s.

Observations on the Speech of Mr Wilberforce, on his Motion in Parliament May 1804. for the Abolition of the Slave Trade; by Jesse Foot, Surgeon. 3s.

Political.

An Argument upon the Justice and Expediency of the Order issued for detaining all Ships bound to the Ports of Spain, freighted with Treasure or warlike Stores. 1s. 6d.

Political Sketches in 1805. No. 1. (To be continued periodically.) 1s. 6d.

Bonaparte compared with Philip of Macedon; or a View of the similar Schemes employed by Philip to subvert the Liberties of Greece, and of Bonaparte to enslave Europe. To which are added, Observations on the critical Situation of Ireland. &c. 1s. 6d.

Thoughts on the Order to detain the Spanish Frigates; by H. Maddock, Barrister. 1s. 6d.

Poetry.

Bonaparte, a Satire; His Coronation, a Vision. 1s.

Poems by Laura Sophia Temple. Small 8vo. 5s. boards.

The Triumph of Music; by Wm. Hayley, Esq. 4to. 10s. 6d.

Playful Translations from the Greek and Roman Classics, adapted to men, Manners, and Things; with original Poems, Prologues, Epilogues, Epigrams, &c. by Thomas Vaughan. No. 1. With a Vignette, designed by Loutherbourg. 4s.

Specimens of scarce Translations of the Seventeenth Century, from the Latin Poets. To which are added, Miscellaneous Translations from the Greek, Spanish, Italian, &c. by Robert Walpole, Esq. B. A. 8vo. 4s. boards.

The Lay of the last Minstrel; by Walter Scott. Esq. 4to.

The Beauties of English Poetry; selected from the most esteemed Authors; by Dr Wolcott; containing several original Pieces, never before published. 2 Volumes, Pocket Size, with Engravings.

Oriental Tales, translated into English Verse. By J. Hoppner, Esq, R. A. 8vo. 7s. boards.

Theology.

The Faith and Hope of the Righteous; a Sermon. By the Rev. Dr Gardiner. 1s.

Voyages and Travels.

Travels to the Westward of the Allegany Mountains. Translated from the French of F. A. Michaux, M. D. 8vo 7s. boards.

Narrative of a Voyage to Brasil, in the Years 1802 and 1803; with general Sketches of the Country, and a Description of the City and Province of St. Salvadore and Port Seguro; by Thomas Lindley. 8vo, 6s. boards.

Literary Intelligence, English *and* Foreign.

MR William Belsham has completed his History of Great Britain, from the Revolution, 1688, to the Conclusion of the Treaty of Amiens, 1802; and the eleventh and twelfth, or concluding, volumes, will make their appearance in a few days.

Sir John Sinclair, whose unwearied industry on every subject to which he turns his attention must command the gratitude and admiration of the public, is at present engaged in the composition of a work, founded on experience and a system of extensive enquiry, to be entitled, "*The Code of Health and Longevity.*" The patriotic author proposes to divide his work into the three following parts; 1. The circumstances which necessarily tend to promote health and longevity independent of individual attention. 2. The rules which, if observed by an individual, have a tendency to preserve health and existence, even where these independent circumstances are wanting. And, 3. The regulations by which the general health and safety of a great community are protected from the various injuries to which they are likely to be exposed.

Mr W. H. Ireland, whose fabrication of the Shakspeare MSS. excited so much attention a short time since, has written an amusing book, containing his confession of all the circumstances which attended that literary forgery, relating not only to the papers, but to the various personages who distinguished themselves while the controversy continued.

Mr Joseph Gandy will speedily publish a work of designs for Cottages, Cottage-farms, and rural Buildings.

Messrs. A. and C. K. Aikin have, for a considerable time, been preparing for publication a Dictionary of Chemistry and Mineralogy, with their application to Arts and Manufactures. This work has been some time in the press; it will be comprised in two quarto volumes, and be published with expedition.

Mrs West is employed on a new work, to be entitled, "Letters to a Young Lady, on the Character and Duties of Women."

The Rev. James Hall, M. A. has in the press some important Experiments and Discoveries on Ice, Heat, and Cold; the result of which will probably prove of great advantage to the navy, and tend to illustrate some important points in natural philosophy.

Dr. Clutterbuck is shortly about to publish an Inquiry into the Seat and Nature of Fever, as deducible from the Phenomena of the Disease, and the Principles of the animal Economy; in which he hopes to determine, more satisfactorily than has been hitherto done, some disputed points of this long-contested subject.

Mrs Bayfield is preparing to publish a volume of Fugitive Poems.

Mrs Cappe, of York, has in the press, and purposes to publish in a very short time, a Series of Remarks on Female Charity Schools, Friendly Societies, and other subjects connected with them.

The original work on the Present State of Peru, announced in a late Number, will appear early in February.

The British and foreign Bible Society, of which Lord Teignmouth is President, has been presented with a valuable collection of copies of the Holy Scriptures, in foreign languages, the acquisition of which has engaged the donor's attention for many years. As many other gentlemen are in possession of copies in the ancient and modern tongues, who may be disposed to follow so laudable an example, such donations will considerably forward the objects of that institution, and may be sent to the Society's Depository, No. 19. Little Moorfields.

An important work will appear in the current month, under the title of Element.

ments and Practice of Naval Architecture, developing the Principles of the Art of Ship-Building, and illustrated with numerous engravings.

The Rev. Josiah Pratt, in consequence of a very considerable rise in the price of paper which has just taken place, will close his present list of subscribers to Bishop Hall's Works, in ten volumes, octavo, at Lady-day. All who send in their names before that time will have the work at 7s. 6d. per volume: but after that day the price will be raised to 9s.

Mr William Collins proposes to publish, by subscription, the Memoirs of a Picture; containing the life and singular adventures of the Chevalier Vanderwigtie, and other celebrated characters; including a biographical sketch of the late Mr George Morland.

A Statistical and Historical Enquiry into the Population of Ireland will shortly be laid before the public. The object of this work is to shew how essential the internal prosperity and tranquillity of that island are to the general interest of the United Kingdom.

The second edition of a narrative of Events that have lately taken place in Ireland, among the Society called Quakers, will shortly appear. The writer of this interesting publication is said to be Mr Wm. Rathbone, a merchant of great respectability in Liverpool, a member of the society of Quakers, who, in their discipline, have instituted proceedings against him, for unnecessarily, as they conceive, exposing the weaknesses of their members, and for deviating from their advice; which is intended to restrain publications by any member affecting the principles of the Society, unless previously sanctioned by their approbation.

Dr Thornton is engaged in a work in defence of the Vaccine System.

Proposals have been issued for publishing, by subscription, Six Views in Derbyshire, viz. four in Dove-Dale, and two in Matlock: from original drawings, taken on the spot, by Thomas Hofland and Thomas Barber: to be engraved by J. Block, in the first style of excellence.

The English language continues to make considerable progress on the continent. In all the new Russian institutions, and in most of the German universities and academies, there is a master appropriated for teaching it; and a number of elementary books and selections, also, from the writings of the best English authors, have been lately published.

It will be gratifying to our readers to be informed of the remarkable decrease of deaths by the Small pox, occasioned by the adopting of Vaccine Innoculation, as it appears by the following comparative view, extracted from the Bills of Mortality:—

Deaths in 1803.		In 1804.
January	181	120
February	121	77
March	95	44
April	61	38
May	69	38
June	48	29
July	50	35
August	67	27
September	85	33
October	64	50
November	152	45
December	180	50
Total	1173	586

This decrease will appear still more important when compared with the annexed statement of deaths by small-pox, for 50 years, within the Bills of Mortality, averaged by ten years:—

	Deaths.
From 1750 to 1759	10,642
1760 .. 1769	24,435
1770 .. 1779	22,039
1780 .. 1789	17,121
1790 .. 1799	17,085
Total, in 50 Years	100,922

Making an annual average of 2018 deaths by small pox.—The following is an annual statement of deaths in the present century:—

	Deaths.
1800	2409
1801	1461
1802	1579
1803	1173
1804	586

It is expected that the public will soon be put in possession of the most accurate and complete details relative to Georgia, a country the present state of which is but little known. Besides the expedition undertaken by the order of the Russian Government, and conducted by Count Muffin, Puschkin, who was accompanied by several literary and scientific men, the Baron of Biberstein, who has already published a work

work relative to the west coast of the Caspian sea, is now travelling in Georgia, to examine every thing relating to the culture and commerce of silk. Three engineers have likewise very recently been dispatched to that country, to collect farther information.

Great expectations are formed by men of letters on the Continent, of the History of Russia, which is in great forwardness, by M. Karamsin.

Several periodical works have been commenced in the present year in Russia. Among these, one entitled, "Notices of the North," is to be published by M. Martignoro, well known for his Translation of Longinus. This paper will exhibit the history of learning and civilization in Russia, and will contain the lives of the most illustrious men of that country. Another journal will be published at Moscow, under the direction of M. Kutosof, ancient curator of the university; it will be entitled "The Friend of Illumination; or, Journal of the Sciences and Arts." There is also to be a Journal for the fair sex, which will be a miscellany of prose and verse.

A third letter from M. Humboldt, concerning his travels in South America and Mexico, was lately read in the National Institute of France. In the first he stated the observations which he had made in the Atlantic Ocean, at the top of the Peak of Teneriffe, and in the province of New Andalusia. In the second he described the operations performed in the province of Venezuela, and the plains of Cazobozzo where he made some curious experiments on the *gymnotus electricus*.—In the third memoir he has given a short account of his navigation to the Orinoko, Rio Negro, and the Carsequaire, executed with great danger, to determine astronomically the communication of the Orinaro with the Amazons river. The parts of his memoirs which contain an account of the geography, botany, and mineralogy, of those countries, as well as of the manners and customs of the people, will be shortly published.

The King of Sweden seems very desirous of introducing into his dominions a proper system of education. A Board, appointed for the purpose of superintending public instruction in Sweden, has lately commissioned a young Swede of the name of Broeman, who has greatly distinguished himself by some critical pieces, and a Treatise on Education, to make a tour thro' several countries of Europe, to collect information on the subject.

The following edict, issued at Vienna, will shew how far the interference of the Austrian Government is likely to contribute to the interests of real knowledge—"According to an imperial edict of the thirteenth of October, all lectures in the University of Vienna, on logic, metaphysics, practical philosophy, and physics, must be delivered in Latin." And, by another edict, "All private teaching, without a licence from the heads of the University, is forbidden; and those who are taught in this manner, and without such a licence, are prohibited from standing a competition for any situation which is to be decided by the literary attainments of the candidates.

A number of engineers, over whom Don Salvador de Ximenes was appointed to preside, have, under the patronage of the Spanish Government, been engaged to prepare charts of the different provinces of that kingdom, and typographical designs of all the principal towns. Two members of this establishment have been selected for the geometrical and astronomical operations, who travel to all places to which the project extends, that the charts may be completed with the greatest accuracy.

Poetry.

CARLAVEROCK CASTLE.

Now hermit night, attir'd in sable hue,
Slow stalks along the mead's meand'ring rill;
The sun retiring bids our skies adieu,
In golden glory, streaming o'er the hill.
Sweeping the azure bosom of yon frith,
On dusky wings the scatter'd sea-fowl scream,

On

Or arching wave along the warb'ling Nith,
And bury wanton in his crystal stream.

The wailing Stock-dove seeks the tow'ring woods,
The timid hare suspicious wends along,
The linnet warbles 'mongst the hawthorn buds,
The thrush melodious pours her lovely song.

Where is the drear, the solitary seat,
O'ertop'd with branching oaks, or cheerless yews;
The unfrequented path, the lone retreat,
Where pensive solitude delights to muse?

There is a hall in yonder ruin'd tower,
With green embowering ivy dark and drear,
Where often roused at the midnight hour,
The veteran warrior grasp'd his deadly spear.

The dauntless chief, who spurning soft repose,
When cruel war uprear'd the hostile shield,
Boldly assail'd his country's daring foes,
And glorious fell on Flodden's bloody field.

Along the grassy dale I wander on,
I climb the ruin'd breach with pitying tears,
I tread the court with briers overgrowe,
Where heroes strode—the dread of other years.

How void the Architect's exulting boast,
"These lordly towers tho' time's decrees
"will last;"
Frail vaunt—a shelter for the shrieking ghost,
A drear asylum for the whistling blast.

Here stood the plenteous table amply stor'd,
There wav'd the banners, noted from afar;
Here daring courage drew his awful sword,
And led his veterans forth to manly war.

There smiling beauty sat, secure from harm,
And grac'd the rich, the hospitable dome,
Where friendless driven before the ruffian storm,
The houseless stranger found a welcome home.

Here, too, amongst the jocund martial throng,
The antient Minstrel struck the sounding string;
The social soul awak'd, round went the song,
Whilst pleasure soar'd on joy's exulting wing.

The daw now chatters in the dreary hall,
The owl seeks refuge in the roofless hold,
The sooty bat clings to the chinky wall,
Where hang the bucklers of the brave and bold.

Ev'n these strong turrets stately tow'ring high,
By sweeping time erased from the plain,
Soon will the passing traveller passing by,
Look for their poor remains—but look in vain.

So 'tis with fallen Man—a ruin'd heap,
His bosom dark, bereav'd of heavenly bliss,
There slander base and viper envy creep,
There adder hate, and scorpion malice hiss.

Chaste love and wild desire, with haggard eyes
Alternate thro' the mazy chaos range,
Fair truth with black deceit inglorious lies,
Kindness with hatred stern and fell revenge.

The noble column, Reason, tottering stands,
With Sophistry's fond ivy fast entwin'd,
Poor prostrate Conscience lifts her feeble hands,
And giant *Self* her nerveless efforts bind;

Yet when this mass of gross corrupted dust
In mediation deep the Sage surveys,
His eye can trace beneath corroding rust,
The features strongly mark'd of *better days*.

Fair in the morn, beneath unclouded skies,
Man stately stalks a blooming beauteous Flower,
At sober eve mow'd down—forgotten lies,
A mould'ring ruin, like this antient tower.

But thou, fair rose-bud, ever smiling gay,
Knowst thou this well-attested heavenly truth,
Thy *leaves of dust* may wither and decay,
"But thou shalt flourish in immortal
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T. M. C.

London Sept. 24. 1804.

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OF THE
MAN OF SORROW.

"A mute inglorious Milton here may rest."
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Young tenant of the peaceful grave,
A wand'rer from the heathy wild,
By rustic nature taught to rave.

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Now hermit night, attir'd in sable hue,
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Or circling wheel along the wand'ring Nith,
And busy wanton in his crystal stream.

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The houseless stranger found a welcome home.

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Whilst pleasure soar'd on joy's exulting wing.

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The owl seeks refuge in the roofless hold,
The sooty bat clings to the chinky wall,
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Ev'n these strong turrets stately tow'ring high,
By sweeping time erased from the plain,
Soon will the passing traveller passing by,
Look for their poor remains—but look in vain.

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Yet when this mass of gross corrupted dust
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Young tenant of the peaceful grave,
A wand'rer from the heathy wild,
By rustic nature taught to rave.

Along the Thames slow sweeping by,
Deep murm'ring to the list'ning ear,

Re-

Repairs to heave this swelling sigh,
And pausing—drops this honest tear.

Thy sadly-sounding harp unstrung,
Thy plaintive muse for ever fled,
And mute thy sorrow tuned tongue,
Laid low amongst the silent dead.

Yet tho' fell death has hew'd thee down,
And nipt thy buds—young lovely tree,
Fame will thy wailing numbers own,
And future times will speak of thee.

When Jesus' peaceful followers throng
Around the holy house of prayer,
To pour the heav'n-ascending song,
And taste of "*bliss beyond compare.*"

Toward the turf which wraps the clay
Of thee, the comrade of his youth,
Some lyart swain may hie away,
There rest and hear the voice of truth.

There too will lovers pledge their troth,
And mourn thy fate with streaming eyes;
And there the Virgins of Arbroath
With flowers will strew where ALLAN lyes.

O soon may life's dark low'ring sky
Serenely hail my setting sun,
Then, freed from sorrow, will I die,
Like thee—*unvex'd and unknown.*

Young Minstrel—melancholy's child,
Too soon laid on the mournful bier,
A stranger from the heathy wild
Of Scotia, drops this honest tear.

T. M. C.

THE BRAES OF BALLAHUN *,

TUNE—"*Roslin Castle.*"

NOW smiling Summer's balmy breeze,
Soft whisp'ring fans the leafy trees,
The linnet greets the rosy morn,
Sweet 'mong yon fragrant, flow'ry thorn;
The bee hums round the woodbine bow'r,
Collecting sweets from ev'ry flow'r,
And pure the chrystal streamlets run,
Amongst the braes of Ballahun.

O blessful days—for ever fled,
When wand'ring wild as fancy led,
I rang'd the bushy-bosom'd glen,
The Scroggie Shaw, the rugged lin,
And mark'd each blooming hawthorn bush
Where nestling sat the speckled thrush,
Or careless roaming—wander'd on,
Amongst the braes of Ballahun.

Why starts the tear—why bursts the sigh,
When hills and dales rebound with joy?
The flow'ry glen and lillied lea,
In vain display their charms to me.
Joyless roam the heathy waste,
To soothe this sad—this troubled breast,
And seek the haunts of men to shun,
Amongst the braes of Ballahun.

The virgin blush of lovely youth,
The angel smile of artless truth,
This breast illum'd with heav'nly joy,
Which lyart Time can ne'er destroy.
O Julia dear—the parting look,
The sad farewell I sorrowing took,
Still haunt me as I stray alone,
Amongst the braes of Ballahun.

London, 1804. *T. M. C.*

TRIUMPH OF IMMORTALITY †.

AN ODE.

SON of the dust! pale sorrow 's child!
Why heaves thy breast with troubled sigh?
Pensive thy brow, demeanour wild,
Why starts the tear drop from thine eye?
Son of the dust! thy grief declare,
Let sympathy thy sorrows share,
And may that Power who marks thy woe,
Dry the bitter tear which misery bids to flow.

The rose in blooming beauty gay,
" I saw, and marked the garden's pride,
" Welcome the solar golden ray,
" Its leaves, in sweet profusion spread—
" —I looked again,—it was no more!
" Vanished the form that charmed before,
" Decayed its leaf, its lovely hue,
" And all its scented fragrance fled like morning dew!

" In stately pride an oak arose,
" Its branches mocked the idle storm,
" Strong stood the trunk, the lofty boughs
" With verdure crowned its noble form—
" —How soon alas! its strength decayed!
" The gnawing worm dire ravage made,
" Nipt were its roots, its leafy store,
" Prone fell the lofty trunk, alas! to rise no more!

" See thousand insects glittering gay,
" Their wings with gold and purple beam,
" Now sporting in the sunny ray,
" Now darting o'er the silvery stream—
" —By the rising blast at eve'
" See them brushed into the wave,
" Their fluttering hour of life is done,
" And the whole gaudy tribe, alas! for ever gone!

" Man in vigour's pride I've seen,
" With courage beamed his daring eye,
" His bosom glowed with ardour keen,
" His towering spirit soared on high.—
" —I

* A lin, in the parish of Closeburn, near Dumfries.
† A free Paraphrase from Mrs Barbauld's Hymns.

" —I looked again,—his breath was fled,
" Cold on the earth his limbs were laid,
" Without his strength, his manly bloom,
" And his fair frame majestic hid in the
grave's dull gloom.

" O tyrant Death! relentless power!
" Thou spoiler of the works of GOD!
" All nature waits thy fatal hour,
" And sinks into thy drear abode!
" For this my tears incessant flow,
" For this I heave the sigh of woe;
" Nor can this heart e'er taste of joy,
" Till nature lives anew, and death himself
shall die."

Son of the dust! thy grief forego!
Renounce pale Trouble's iron sway,
No more let Sorrow cloud thy brow,
Chase the dark'ning gloom away.
Full oft thy heart is torn with woe,
Full oft thine eyes with tears o'erflow,
But cheer thy heart, and dry thine eye,
"For Nature lives anew, and Death himself
shall die."

I too beheld the blushing flower
Hang it's fair head in mournful guise,
It's short-lived day of beauty o'er,
The lovely form in ruin lies.—
—I looked again,—it bloomed anew,
Again in leafy pride it grew,
The stem with budding blossoms crowned,
Wide o'er the verdant glade it threw its
fragrance round.

Sinking into Ocean's bed,
His glory veiled in sable gloom,
See the Sun's gay radiance fled,
No more his beams the globe illume.—
—I looked again,—bright from the east,
In cloudless light his orb increased,
Chased the midnight shades away,
While the lark hails melodious the glorious
god of day.

Thus shall thy life, O man! revive,—
Again the vital spark shall burn,
The dust that died again shall live,
And every active power return.
A while in earth's dark bosom laid,
Thy glory veiled, thy spirit fled,
But soon the Day-spring shines on high,
And the glad soul awakes to taste eternal
joy.

Blest son of heaven! no longer mourn,
No longer rend thy heart with woe;
But hail with joy the happy bourne
Where Sorrow's stream shall never flow.
Immortal! see the tyrant dies,
In ruin plunged the spoiler lies,
Vanquished his might, his triumph o'er,
While Virtue heaven-ward springs, and
lives to die no more!

Hebrides, Sept. 1804. *W. D.*

To the Editor.

SIR,

As the verses, composed by a manufacturer in the village of *Carlops*, sent you last month, have been favoured with your approbation, it is hoped the following lines, by the same young man, who is likewise a volunteer for the defence of the country, will be found to merit a place in your useful miscellany.

N.

VERSES

WRITTEN IN NEW-HALL WOODS,

ON A WINTER-DAY.

DESIST, my feet, nor roam these desart plains!
These leafless woods why do I thus explore!
They cannot please the eye, when winter reigns;
All nature's silent, but the torrent's roar.
In dreary dullness sit the feather'd choir,
Nor aught can cheer them but returning spring,
When Nature, kind, shall their gay notes inspire,
And tune their little, artless throats, to sing.

Even me she bids my uncouth warblings try,
Tho' science smil'd not on my natal hour,
No friendly hand gave aid, to raise them high,
While penury's dark clouds around me lour.
But why complain of Fortune's scanty boon?
She gives the little, fluttering life sustains;
Away, dark melancholy, with thy gloom!
Nor hold my heart in thy coercive chains.

Nature I'll court, when lovely smiling May
Spreads her green mantle o'er the bushy thorn,
Well pleas'd to hear the lark's shrill matin lay,
As up he soars, to hail the dawning morn.
With solitary step, by stream, or lawn,
Wand'ring, I'll watch the day's departing gleam,
While, all around, the dewy breezes blown,
Prepare fresh juices for th' exhausted stream.

Let friendship, health, the balms that sweeten life,
With meek-ey'd peace, come to my humble cell,
And shield me safe from envy, and from strife,
Content, I'll bid the busy world farewell.

Nor

Nor shall Ambition, with her tinsel train,
Draw from my breast, one wish—one secret sigh:
Retir'd, unknown, I'll sing in homely strain;
Then, with my kindred dust, unheeded, lye.
T. F.

LINES TO Dr CURRIE,

On his valuable Discoveries relative to the effect of cold water in Fevers.

To the Editor.

SIR,

As I am a student of medicine, I naturally feel deeply interested in every improvement in the science which is calculated to diffuse blessings among mankind, and to alleviate the most common and fatal disease, to which humanity is incident, viz. Fever—Nothing, in my opinion, has tended so much to disarm fever of its mortality as the liberal use of cold water, both internally and externally, as recommended by the celebrated Dr Currie of Liverpool. I therefore request, that you would publish in your useful Magazine, the following lines; which my profound respect and veneration for the person to whom they are addressed, and not an idle cacoethes scribendi, prompted me to usher into light.

The candid and judicious reader will at once observe, that the speaking of Dr Currie, as having first employed the cold effusion, is a *licentia poetica*. We are indebted to Dr *Wright* for its first introduction into Great Britain.

—— *Musa vetat mori.*
Horace.

OH thou! whose genius scorning vulgar rules,
Whose daring mind snatch'd reason from the schools;
Where, long involv'd in darkness drear, she dwelt,
While wretched man, too oft, alas! was sent,
By his false precepts, to that tranquil shore
Where tyrants meet, and discord is no more.
'Twas *Currie* first, who frigid water shed,
And banish'd mis'ry from the patient's bed.
By thy great mind has febris fell been crush'd;
False theory vanquish'd, ev'ry sophist hush'd.
No more the lancet shall be stain'd with blood,
Dread fever's tyrant is the cooling flood.
Whose genial influence shall our patients save,
And rescue thousands from the gloomy grave;
While unborn nations shall its author praise,
And crown his glory with immortal rays.
Edinburgh. *C*

NIGHT PIECE.

NOW in sable, sad array,
Hoary night involves the day,
Thro' the angry, scowling sky,
Wildly raving tempests fly;
Drifting shewers of northern snow
Wrap the naked world below,
Stop the eager trav'ler's breath,
Numb his limbs in frozen death;
While, to superstitious fear,
Shrieks and groans assail the ear,
Spirits, howling on the blast,
Sweep afar the lonely waste.

Let me from the scene retire
Let me trim my ev'ning fire,
Trim my fire, the cake produce.
Quaff the wholesome, nut-brown juice,
And in sober potions gay,
Laugh the harmless hours away.
Then with Maria bless the lot
Which appoints a simple cot,
Far from bustle, far from strife,
And the storms and ills of life;
Thus in social, gay delight,
Pass away the winter night. *I.*

ON A HOARY HEAD.

IMITATED FROM PETRONIUS.

ALAS! thy locks in playful order spread,
Once the bright honours of thy head, are fled;
And angry winter frowns his face austere,
See the bleak summit of thy head appear!
Blanched with the snow of quick descending age,
Which art ne'er conquers, nor can e'er assuage.
When first our eyes gaze on the orb of day,
Nature adorns us with her best array;
But soon! too soon! before her fairy wand,
All graces vanish at her dire command.—
Ah! youthful years beheld thee in the prime
Of ev'ry charm, of ev'ry grace divine;
Brighter thy locks than those whose waving fire,
Breathed o'er his shoulders who attuned the lyre;
Than those which hailed the gentle breeze of morn,
Whilst their fair mistress blew the echoing horn.
Thy brow resembles that * *white swelling flower*,
Sprung by the aid of some benignant shower,
With fear avoiding ev'ry fair one's wile,
You fly abhorring their alluring smile.
N. T.

MONTHLY

* A mushroom.

THE

Monthly Register,

FOR FEBRUARY 1805.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

AMERICA.

ON the 8th November Congress met, when the President Jefferson sent a message by Secretary Barwell to both Houses, wherein he represents the States to be in general tranquillity, and upon friendly terms with all the European nations, notwithstanding several infringements of their rights had been committed in the American seas by the Belligerent powers, but which he trusted would in future be prevented.—Spain had withdrawn her opposition to the cession of Louisian , and the exact limits of that territory only remained to be adjusted.—The disadvantages of carrying on war at such a distance as the Mediterranean were certainly considerable, but the activity and success of the American squadron there, he hoped, would reduce the Barbarians of Tripoli to a desire for peace upon reasonable terms.—Conferences had been opened with the Indian tribes within the newly acquired limits, and as their dispositions appeared to be favourable and friendly, by pursuing an uniform course of justice towards them, by aiding them in all the improvements that may tend to better their condition, and by establishing a commerce on terms advantageous to them, we may so render ourselves necessary to their comfort and prosperity, that they would find it their true interest to protect American citizens against the attack of their disorderly members.—The Delawares were desirous to extinguish in their people the spirit of hunting, and to convert superfluous lands into a means of improving what they retain, and had therefore ceded to us all the country betwixt the Wabash and the Ohio, fronting 300 miles on the latter river; for which they were to receive in return animals, implements of agriculture, and other necessaries. The state of the finances was flourishing. The receipt for the year ending 30th September was 11,500,000 dollars, which, after meeting all the expences of the year, had discharged 3,600,000 dollars of the public debt, besides interest.

The estimate of expenditure for the ensuing year is as follows:—Civil list 611,911 dollars, miscellaneous expences 310,982 d. expences of intercourse with foreign nations 269,550 d. military establishment 942,992 d. naval establishment 1,240,000 d.—total 3,375,435 d.

Col. Burr (who killed Gen. Hamilton in a duel last July) took his seat as Vice President in the Senate. None of the members had any intercourse with him, and an adjournment took place for three days, when the new election was made. Mr Jefferson was re-elected President, and George Clinton, Esq. late Governor of New-York, Vice President in room of Col. Burr.

Mr C. C. Pinkney was the unsuccessful candidate for the Presidentship, and Mr Rufus King, late Ambassador at London, for the Vice-Presidency.

The bill for making farther appropriation to carry into effect the treaty of amity with Great Britain, was on the 20th November read a third time and passed, in the House of Representatives.

The French Ambassador, General Thurreau, bearing the official dispatches relative to the new dignity assumed by Bonaparte, had arrived in the city of Washington, and had a long interview with the President. His suite was numerous and splendid.

Tho' the Grand Jury of the State of New-York, had found a true bill against Col. Burr for the murder of Gen. Hamilton, no prosecution had been commenced against him. But Judge Pendleton and Mr Van Ness, the two seconds, had been tried at New-York, and

and found guilty, art and part in the murder of the General.

On the 9th December, Judge Chace, who had been accused by the State of Maryland, for a libel against the general Government, in an address delivered by him to the Grand Jury of Baltimore in May last, made a long speech in defence of his conduct in the House of Representatives. He craved a delay till next session to prepare his defence at large; but the House only allowed him till the 4th of January for that purpose.

Three more Judges are ordered to be impeached by the House of Representatives of Pennsylvania State.

The French frigates, Didon and Sybelle, which have been so long blocked up at New-York, at length effected their escape thro' Hellgate on the 2d November. The English frigates Leander and Cambrian, were at anchor within Sandy-hook at the time, but could not get out till next day on account of head wind and tide. After pursuing the most probable track for a fortnight, and meeting with no intelligence of the French ships, they steered for Halifax, where they arrived safe about the 20th. It is supposed that the French frigates took a southerly course for the West Indies.

Jerome Bonaparte and his Lady had frequently gone on board la Didon, with an intention to get home to France; but the French sailors shewed always such doubts of their being able to elude the vigilance of the English frigates, that they retired to their seat near Baltimore to remain for the winter. Another French frigate le President had arrived in November, in Hampton roads in Virginia, from Guadaloupe (whither she had carried out troops and stores from France,) with orders to take on board Jerome. But the British frigate la Revolutionnaire having got intelligence of her destination, was cruizing off that port to intercept her, so that it is likely she may try to steal off too, and leave Jerome to enjoy his wished for retirement.

On the 7th September, about 11 at night, a most dreadful storm came on along the coast of Carolina, but the port and town of Charlestown were the greatest sufferers. A number of vessels were drove ashore from their moorings, and beat over the wharfs, many of which were destroyed, as well as the vessels. Several stores were knocked down by the bowsprits of the ships, and many by the violence of the wind, and the merchandise contained in them carried off by the sea. The tide, at the period of low water, ran as high as the usual spring tides. The damage done to the shipping was very great. In the city, many houses were unroofed, and most of the trees in the streets and the fences torn up. About 20 dwelling houses were undermined by the water, and swept entirely away, the inhabitants losing every article of furniture, &c. The whole of the bulwark on South Bay was laid in ruins, which forced the families resiling there to quit their houses in the utmost dread. The storm lasted about 30 hours. Fortunately no lives were lost, except that of a poor negro man, who was killed by the fall of a chimney top.

On the 18th of December, about one in the morning, a fire broke out in New York, which destroyed a valuable part of that fine city. It originated at No. 104. Front-Street, from whence the flames were seen bursting with the most alarming fury. The night being very cold, the people assembled very slowly at first to lend their assistance. The water in the harbour being at the ebb, and the engines consequently badly supplied, with a high wind from the west, in less than an hour, more than 20 houses in Front-Street became a prey to the devouring element, and the flames were spreading further with frightful rapidity. About 5 o'clock the conflagration was at its height, and presented a scene awfully grand. Forty houses enveloped in flames, showers of red hot embers flying before the wind, and falling on the shipping at the wharfs, and on the people in the streets, immense columns of murky smoke ascending and darkening the atmosphere, the hiss of the water on the blazing timbers, the crash of falling walls, the noise of the multitude carrying off the furniture, and working the engines, and the melancholy appearance of women and children, driven from their houses, and involved in ruin, all conspired to fill the mind with horror. Fortunately, the shipping sustained no material damage. The loss of property is estimated at a million of dollars, or 200,000l. sterling. No lives appear to have been lost.

FRANCE.

FRANCE.

LEGISLATIVE BODY.

Paris—Dec. 27.

EMPEROR'S FIRST SPEECH.

At 11 in the morning the Members of the Legislative Body, in their ceremonial dresses, repaired to the hall of their sittings. At twelve, a discharge of artillery having announced the arrival of the Emperor, the Deputation, with the President at its head, set out to meet his Majesty. The procession soon entered the hall, whilst martial music was heard on every side. All the Legislators rose up; the Emperor ascended his throne, and all who accompanied him sat down to the right and left, in those places assigned them. All the persons present being seated and covered, Prince Joseph, the Grand Elector, quitted the right hand of the Emperor, advanced towards the balustrade, and asked his Majesty's permission to administer the oath to the Members of the Legislative Body.

A Questor then called the Legislators, who successively pronounced aloud standing—"I swear obedience to the Constitution of the empire, and fidelity to the Emperor."

The appeal terminated, the Emperor rose, the Legislators uncovered themselves, and his Majesty delivered the following speech:—

"Gentlemen, Deputies of the Departments to the Legislative Body, Gentlemen Tribunes, and Members of *my* Council of State, I come to preside at the opening of your Session. It is a more awful and more august character that I wish to impress upon your labours. Princes, Magistrates, Soldiers, Citizens, we have all in our career but one aim, the interest of the country.

"If this throne, which Providence and the will of the nation have made me ascend, is dear in my eyes, it is because it alone can defend and preserve the most sacred interests of the French people. Without a strong and paternal government, France would have to fear the return of the evils which it has suffered. The weakness of the supreme power is the most dreadful calamity of nations; Soldier, First Consul, I had but one thought; Emperor, I have no other, the prosperity of France. I have been happy enough to illustrate it by victories, to consolidate it by treaties, to deliver it from civil discords, and to prepare in it the regeneration of morals, of society, and of religion. If death do not surprise me in the midst of my labours, I hope to leave to my posterity a remembrance which may serve for ever as an example or a reproach to my successors. My Ministers of the Interior will lay open to you the situation of the Empire.

"The Orators of my Council of State will present to you the different wants of the Legislature. I have ordered to be laid before you the accounts which my ministers have rendered me of the administration of their several departments. I am satisfied with the prosperous state of our finances. Whatever may be the expences, they are covered by the receipts. However extensive have been the preparations necessitated by the war we are engaged in, I shall demand of my people no new sacrifice. It would be grateful to me, at so solemn an epoch, to see peace reigning throughout the world; but the political principles of our enemies, their recent conduct towards Spain, sufficiently make known the difficulty of it. I wish not to increase the territory of France, but to maintain the integrity of it. I have not the ambition to exercise in Europe a greater influence, but I will not sink in the influence which I have acquired. No state shall be incorporated in the Empire; but I will not sacrifice my rights, or the ties that attach me to the States which I have created.

"In decreeing to me the Crown, my people have taken the engagement to make every effort which the circumstances should require, to preserve to them that lustre which is as necessary to their prosperity and to their glory, as it is to mine. I am full of confidence in the energy of the nation, and in its sentiments for me. Its dearest interests are the constant object of my solicitude.

"Gentlemen, Deputies of the Departments to the Legislative Body, Gentlemen Tribunes and Members of *my* Council of State, your conduct during the preceding session, the zeal which animates you for the country, and for my person, are a guarantee to me of the assistance which I demand of you, and which I shall find in you during the course of this session."

This

This speech was listened to with the most profound silence. But scarcely had his Majesty ceased speaking, when the applauses and cries of "Long live the Emperor!" burst forth from all sides, and continued even after the departure of his Majesty.

Dec. 31.

A message was read from the Emperor, announcing that M. Champagny, Minister of the Interior, and Regnaud and Laene, Councillors of State, had been appointed to present the exposition of the state of the Empire.

EXPOSITION OF THE STATE OF FRANCE.

M. *Champagny*.—"In consequence of the nomination just announced to you, I am about to have the honour of giving you an account of the present state of the French Empire:—

"The internal situation of France, is at present what it was in the most peaceful times; there is no movement that can alarm the public tranquillity; no crime connected with the remembrance of the Revolution; every where useful enterprizes; every where an amelioration of public and private property attests the progress of confidence and security."

After alluding to the new Emperor being acknowledged in the different departments; by the Armies, Tribunals, &c. and the arrival of his Holiness in France, the Orator speaks "of a plot hatched by an implacable enemy, which was about to plunge France again into an abyss of civil war. On the discovery of this horrid plot, all France was thrown into commotion; disquietudes scarcely allayed, were awakened; and in all minds were found, at the same time, principles which have been those of all wise men, and which were constantly ours before the public mind had been alienated by error and weakness, and opinions had been misled by criminal intrigues."

The Orator then proceeds to state, that it had been found that the chief power divided had been without unanimity and force; the Senate, as it ought to be, was the organ of the common uneasiness, and a wish for an hereditary government was soon expressed. It was proclaimed by the Electoral Colleges, by the armies; the Council of State, the Magistrates, and the most enlightened men, were consulted, and their answer was unanimous. The necessity of hereditary power, in a country so large as France, had long been perceived by the First Consul. In vain had he resisted the force of principles—in vain had he endeavoured to establish a system of election which might perpetuate the supreme authority, and transmit it without danger, and without trouble. Reason, sentiment, and experience, all said to the French, that there could be no certain transmission of power, but that effected without any interval; that there could be no tranquil succession but that regulated by the laws of nature. When wishes so ardent were supported by such motives, the determination of the First Consul could not be doubtful. He resolved then to accept for himself, and for two of his brothers after him, the burden imposed on him by the necessity of circumstances.

Here the Orator enumerates the series of dispositions which have fixed the hereditary succession of the Imperial throne, and expatiates on the consequences which have resulted from it, in regard to the interior state of France.—He then proceeds to the external situation of France; speaks of St Domingo being still preserved, by the courage of Frenchmen, seconded by the fidelity of the Spaniards. Martinique braves the menaces of the enemy; Guadaloupe has enriched itself with the spoils of British commerce, and Guiana still prospers under an active and vigorous administration. The Isles of France and Reunion would at present have been the depot of the riches of Asia; and London would have been convulsed and in a state of disaster, had not weakness or inexperience defeated a project concerted with the utmost ability. [The Orator, no doubt, here alludes to the defeat of Linois's squadron, by Commodore Dance.] These islands, however, are still supported by prizes taken from the enemy.

"Our armies are still worthy of their reputation; our soldiers and officers are learning to subdue that element, which separates us from that island, the object of all their resentment; our boldness and address astonish the oldest and most expert seamen; our fleets are continually manœuvring, as a prelude to battle, and while those of our enemies are worn out by the winds and tempests, ours are learning

learning, without being destroyed, to struggle against them. In a word, since the war, we have got possession of Hanover, and we are more in a state than ever to aim decisive blows at our enemies." After a few words on the state of finances and revenues, the Orator takes a view of the political situation of the different powers of Europe. "Spain," says he, "reposed in a neutrality, to which France had consented, and which the British Cabinet had acknowledged. All of a sudden its ships were attacked, and the Treaty of Amiens was violated in regard to it, as it had been in regard to France. His Catholic Majesty has adopted that course commanded by the dignity of his throne, violated faith, and the honour of that generous nation, the destiny of which he directs.

The Emperor of *Austria* devotes to the restoration of his finances, the prosperity of his provinces, and the progress of their commerce, that repose which is suggested to him by the loyalty of his character, and the interest of his subjects.

The *Italian* republic, administered and governed by the same principles as France, demands, like it, a definitive organization, which may secure to the present generation, and to future generations, all the advantages of the social compact.

Helvetia enjoys in peace all those advantages, which arise from its Constitution, the wisdom of its citizens, and from our alliance.

Batavia still groans under an oligarchical government, without union, without patriotism, and without vigour. Its colonies have been sold a second time, and delivered up to England without firing a shot; but that nation has energy, morals, and œconomy—it wants only a firm, patriotic, and enlightened Government.

The King of *Prussia*, on every occasion, has shewn himself the friend of France, and the Emperor has embraced every opportunity of consolidating this happy harmony.

The Elector and all the Members of the Germanic Body, faithfully maintain the relations of friendship and amity, which unite them to France.

Denmark follows the councils of a policy always sage, moderate, and judicious.

The spirit of Catherine the Great will watch over the councils of Alexander I.; he will remember that the friendship of France is for him a counterpoise necessary in the balance of Europe; that placed at a distance from it, he can neither attack nor trouble its repose, and that his great interest is to find in his relations with it, a channel necessary for disposing of the productions of his Empire.

Turkey is wavering in its politics; it follows, through fear, a system which its interest disavows.—May it not learn, at the expence of its own existence, that fear and uncertainty which accelerate the fall of empires, more fatal a thousand times than the dangers and losses of an unfortunate war.

Whatever may be the movements of *England*, the destinies of France are fixed; strong by its union; strong by its riches and the courage of its defenders, it will faithfully cultivate the alliance of friendly nations, and will act in such a manner as neither to merit enemies, nor to fear them.

When England shall be convinced of the imbecility of its efforts to agitate the continent: when it shall be sensible that it can only lose in a war undertaken without object: when it shall be convinced that France will never accept other conditions than those of Amiens, and will never consent to allow it the right to break treaties at pleasure, by appropriating to itself Malta; England will then arrive at pacific sentiments; hatred and envy prevail only for a time."

When the report was read, the President addressing himself to the Minister of the Interior, and the Counsellors of State, said, the Legislative Body will consider the report with a deliberation worthy of it, and of the government.

In the sitting of the Legislative Body on the 7th January, a bill relative to the military conscription for year 14, was presented by the Councillor of State, Lacuee, who prefaced his plan with a long speech, in which he alluded to the means adopted by all the great powers of Europe for recruiting their armies; and concluded by proposing—That 30,000 conscripts shall be raised from the conscription for the year 14, to complete the army upon the footing of its organization, and 30,000 to remain in reserve, or to place the army on a war establishment. This does not extend the French military establishment. It is the same bill and the same force as last year.

HOLLAND.

HOLLAND.

If any people on earth can still wish to fraternize with France, let them only look at the unfortunate condition of Holland, and they will learn to be contented with their lot. Such is the lamentable state of that country, that the Government cannot presume to take any measure of domestic regulation without the previous sanction of the French Commander (Marmont,) who holds the people under military controul.

The Batavian State Directory, acting under the terror of French authority, has been obliged to rescind and annul a resolution of the latter end of November, which prohibited the Batavian Officers from obeying the orders of the French Commanders, except such as related to the defence of the country, or the preparations for the invasion of England. The French Government resented this act of contumacy with much promptitude and severity. Four of the members of the Directory were compelled to resign, and the Secretary for the Foreign Department also gave in his resignation at the request of Simonville, the French Ambassador. The four members have been since put under arrest, but were released at the intercession of the Prussian Ambassador.

On the 21st January, in the Secret Assembly of the Batavian Legislative body, in consequence of an extraordinary petition sent up from the State Directory, and a proposal for consenting, in order to cover the deficiency in the revenue, to a third instalment of the extraordinary contribution on property and income for the year 1803, the burgo-master Van Hasselt, exposed, in the most melancholy point of view, the wretched state of the Dutch finances. The entire destruction of, and blotting out from the list of nations, said he, is the recompence which the United Provinces have received for the immense sacrifices they have made in order to defend their freedom and independence: and he treats the demand of the new tax as being solely founded on the alledged extreme necessity of the State, which he considers as resulting from a total stagnation in every department of the Government, from the insurrection both of the army and navy, and from general bankruptcy. M. Van Hasselt concludes by proposing, that the State Directory should make a bold and faithful representation to Bonaparte of the sufferings of the country since 1795, in hope that the French Government will not insist on the Batavian Legislature passing the desired decree, which, if it becomes a law, cannot possibly defer longer the national bankruptcy.

Whether M. Van Hasselt has any counsellor besides his own patriotism and despair, it is impossible for us at present to penetrate; but his prophecy has been soon and suddenly realised.

On the 28th January, the Assembly of the States passed the decree, that the Dutch Government was reduced to the necessity of stopping payment of the public annuities. The decree states, as the cause of their bankruptcy, that they had been unhappily, through their connection with France, involved in the present war with Great Britain, and that they must either have called on the public for a contribution of at least one per cent. per month, or of suspending their payments. They preferred the latter, as the least of two evils, and accordingly all payments of the public dividends are stopt. This will be a dreadful calamity to all the widows, orphans, and others, whose whole property has been lodged in the public funds of Holland. The discontent of all classes of the people is extreme, and the French soldiery live in a state of perpetual vigilance and apprehension.

It is exceedingly probable, that the late measures of the French commercial army have driven the Dutch to a state of actual despair. General Marmont had confiscated the colonial importation from Britain, as well as its manufactures. Five neutral vessels, freighted with coffee, sugars, &c. have been seized, of which the cargoes were to be sold by public auction, in the port of Rotterdam—There is no doubt that this system extends to all the ports of the Meuse, the Scheldt, and the Texel, and that the hour is at hand which will ascertain, whether there be any limits to the tyranny of France, and the sufferings of this miserable country.

The French we learn have since relaxed a little of their severity in the above confiscations.—The goods have been restored to the owners, upon paying a very high per centage. General Marmont, indignant at the interference of Talleyrand's civil agents in this business, has resigned his command.

ENGLAND.

ENGLAND.

War with Spain.

[In our last Magazine, we gave some particulars of the negociation relative to our disputes with Spain, together with the Spanish Manifesto, or Declaration of War against this country. The following Declaration on the part of Great Britain (said to be drawn up by Lord Hawkesbury,) has been laid before Parliament, together with a printed copy of the whole correspondence, consisting of 200 folio pages.]

British Declaration.

From the moment that hostilities had commenced between Great Britain and France, a sufficient ground of war against Spain, on the part of Great Britain, necessarily followed from the treaty of St Ildephonso, if not disclaimed by Spain.

That treaty, in fact, identified Spain with the Republican Government of France, by a virtual acknowledgement of unqualified vassalage, and by specific stipulations of unconditional offence.

By the articles of that treaty, Spain covenanted to furnish a stated contingent of naval and military force for the prosecution of any war in which the French Republic might think proper to engage. She specifically surrendered any right or pretension to enquire into the nature, origin, or justice of the war. She stipulated, in the first instance, a contingent of troops and ships, which, of itself, comprised no moderate proportion of the means at her disposal; but in the event of this contingent being at any time found insufficient for the purposes of France, she further bound herself to put into a state of activity, the utmost force both by sea and land, that it should be in her power to collect. She covenanted that this force should be at the disposal of France, to be employed conjointly or separately for the annoyance of the common enemy; thus submitting her entire power and resources to be used as the instruments of French ambition and aggression, and to be applied in whatever proportion France might think proper, for the avowed purpose of endeavouring to subvert the Government, and destroy the national existence of Great Britain.

The character of such a treaty gave Great Britain an incontestible right to declare to Spain, that unless she decidedly renounced the treaty, or gave assurances that she would not perform the obligations of it, she would not be considered as a neutral power.

This right, however, from prudential reasons, and from motives of forbearance and tenderness towards Spain, was not exercised in its full extent; and in consequence of assurances of a pacific disposition on the part of the Spanish government, his Majesty did not, in the first instance, insist on a distinct and formal renunciation of the Treaty. It does not appear that any express demand of succour had been made by France before the month of July 1793; and on the first notification of the war, his Majesty's Minister at Madrid was led to believe, in consequence of communications which passed between him and the Spanish government, that his Catholic Majesty did not consider himself as necessarily bound by the mere fact of the existence of a war between Great Britain and France, without subsequent explanation and discussion, to fulfil the stipulations of the treaty of St Ildephonso, though the articles of that treaty would certainly give rise to a very different interpretation. In the month of October a convention was signed, by which Spain agreed to pay to France a certain sum monthly, in lieu of the naval and military succours which they had stipulated by the treaty to provide, but of the amount of this sum, or of the nature of any other stipulations which that convention might contain, no official information whatever was given.

It was immediately stated by his Majesty's minister at Madrid to the Spanish government, that a subsidy as large as that which they were supposed to have engaged to pay to France, far exceeded the bounds of forbearance; that it could only meet with a temporary connivance, as if it was continued, it might prove in fact a greater injury than any other hostility. In reply to these remonstrances, it was represented as an expedient to gain time, and assurances were given, which were confirmed by circumstances, which came to his Majesty's knowledge from other quarters, that the disposition of the Spanish government would induce them to extricate themselves from this engagement,

gagement, if the course of events should admit of their doing so with safety.

When his Majesty had first reason to believe that such a convention was concluded, he directed his Minister at Madrid to declare that his forbearing to consider Spain as an enemy must depend in some degree upon the amount of the succours, and upon her maintaining a perfect neutrality in all other respects; but that it would be impossible for him to consider a permanent payment, to the amount of that which was stated to be in agitation, in any other light than as a direct subsidy of war. His Majesty's Envoy was directed, therefore, first to protest against the convention, as a violation of neutrality, and a justifiable cause of war; secondly, to declare that our abstaining from hostilities must depend upon its being only a temporary measure, and that we must be at liberty to consider a perseverance in it as a cause of war; thirdly, that the entrance of any French troops into Spain must be refused; fourthly, that any naval preparation must be a great cause of jealousy, and any attempt to give naval assistance to France an immediate cause of war; fifthly, that the Spanish ports must remain open to our commerce, and that our ships of war must have equal treatment with those of France. His Majesty's Minister was also instructed, if any French troops entered Spain, or if he received authentic information of any naval armaments preparing for the assistance of France, to leave Madrid, and to give immediate notice to our naval commanders, that they might proceed to hostilities without the delay that might be occasioned by a reference at home.

The execution of these instructions produced a variety of discussions; during which his Majesty's Minister told M. Cevallos, in answer to this question, Whether a continuance of such pecuniary succours to France would be considered as a ground of war, and whether he was authorised to declare it?—that he was so authorised, and that war would be the infallible consequence.

It was, however, still thought desirable by his Majesty, to protract, if possible, the decision of this question; and it was therefore stated in the instructions to his Minister at Madrid, that as the subsidy was represented by the Spanish Government to be merely a temporary measure, his Majesty might still continue to overlook it for a time; but that his decision in this respect must depend upon knowing the precise nature of all the stipulations between Spain and France, and upon the Spanish Government being determined to cause their neutrality to be respected in all other particulars: That until these questions were answered in a satisfactory manner, and the convention communicated to him, he could give no positive answer whether he would treat the pecuniary succours a cause of war or not.

Before the receipt of these instructions, dated January 21. 1804, the report of some naval armaments in the ports of Spain had occasioned a fresh correspondence between his Majesty's Minister and the Spanish Government. In one of the notes presented by the former, he declares, that if the King was forced to begin a war, he would want no other declaration than what he had already made. The answers of the Spanish Government were at first of an evasive nature; his Majesty's Minister closed the correspondence on his part by a note delivered on the 18th Feb. in which he declares, that all further forbearance on the part of England must depend upon the cessation of all naval armaments, and a prohibition of the sale of prizes in their ports; and unless these points were agreed to without modification, he had orders to leave Madrid. On the second of these points, a satisfactory answer was given, and orders issued accordingly; on the first a reference was made to former declarations. To the question about disclosing the treaty with France, no satisfactory answer was ever given. As however no naval preparations appeared to be proceeding at that period in the ports of Spain, the matter was allowed to remain there for a time.

In the month of July 1804, the Government of Spain gave assurances of a faithful and settled neutrality, and disavowed any orders to arm in their ports; yet in the subsequent month, when these assurances were recent, and a confident reliance reposed in them, the British Charge d'Affaires received advice from the Admiral commanding his Majesty's ships off the port of Ferrol, that reinforcements of soldiers and sailors had arrived through Spain for the

French

French fleet at Toulon and Ferrol. On this intelligence two notes were presented to the Spanish Ministers, but no answer was received to either of them. Towards the end of the month of September, information was received in London from the British Admiral stationed off Ferrol, that orders had actually been given by the Court of Madrid for arming without loss of time, at that port, four ships of the line, two frigates, and other smaller vessels; that (according to his intelligence) similar orders had been given at Carthagena and Cadiz, and particularly that three first-rate ships of the line were directed to sail from the last-mentioned port; and, as an additional proof of hostile intentions, that orders had been given to arm the packets as in time of war.

Here then appeared a direct and unequivocal violation of the term on which the continuance of peace had been acquiesced in. Previous notice having been given to the Spanish Government, that a state of war would be the immediate consequence of such a measure, his Majesty on this event stood almost pledged to an instant commencement of hostilities. The King, however, preferred a persevering adherence to the system of moderation so congenial to his disposition: he resolved to leave still an opening for accommodation, if Spain should be still allowed the liberty to adopt the course prescribed by a just sense of her own interests and security. It is here worthy of remark, that the groundless and ungrateful imputations thrown out against his Majesty's conduct in the Spanish Manifesto, are built upon the foundation of his forbearance alone. Had his Majesty exercised without reserve his just rights of war, the representations so falsely asserted, and so insidiously dwelt upon, could not have been even stated under any colourable pretext. The indulgence, therefore, which postponed the actual state of war, was not only misrepresented, but transformed into ground of complaint, because the forbearance extended to the aggressors was not carried to a dangerous and inadmissible extreme.

In consequence of the intelligence above stated, directions were sent to his Majesty's Ministers at Madrid, to make representations and remonstrances to the Spanish Court, to demand explanations relative to the existing conventions between Spain and France: and, above all, to insist that the naval armaments in their ports should be placed on the same footing as they were previously to the commencement of hostilities between Great Britain and France; and he was further directed explicitly to state to the Spanish Government, that his Majesty felt a duty imposed upon him of taking, without delay, every measure of precaution; and, particularly, of giving orders to his Admiral off the port of Ferrol to prevent any of the Spanish ships of war sailing from that port, or any additional ships of war from entering it. No substantial redress, no satisfactory explanation, was afforded in consequence of these repeated representations, whilst, under the cover of his Majesty's forbearance, the enemy had received considerable remittances of treasure, together with the facility of procuring other supplies.

Every circumstance of the general conduct of Spain was peculiarly calculated to excite the vigilant attention of the British Government---the removal of Spanish ships out of their docks, to make room for the accommodation of the men of war of France---the march of French troops and seamen through the Spanish territory---the equipment of naval armaments at Ferrol---the consideration that the junction of this armament with the French ships already in that harbour, would create a decided superiority of numbers over his Majesty's squadron cruizing off that port---the additional naval exertions, and the consequent increase of expence which this conduct of Spain necessarily imposed upon Great Britain. All these together required precautions, both of representation and action, to which his Majesty had immediate recourse.—While official notice was given of his Majesty's intention to adopt those necessary measures, the Spanish Government was at the same time assured, that his Majesty still felt an earnest desire to maintain a good understanding with Spain; but that the continuance of such a state of things must be subject to the condition of abstaining on their part from all hostile preparations, and on making, without hesitation or delay, that full and explicit disclosure of the nature and extent of the subsisting engagements with France, which had hitherto been so frequently and so fruitlessly demanded.

The precautions adopted by his Majesty,

jesty, were such as he deemed indispensibly necessary to guard against the augmentation by Spain of her means of naval preparation during the discussion, and against the possible consequences of the safe arrival of the expected American treasure in the Spanish ports: an event which has more than once become the epoch of the termination or discussions, and of the commencement of hostility on the part of Spain.

The orders issued by his Majesty, on this occasion, to the Admirals commanding his fleets, afford the most striking example of a scrupulous and indulgent forbearance; the most strict limitation was given as to the extent and object of the measures proposed, and the execution of those orders was guarded with the strongest injunctions to avoid, by every means consistent with the attainment of their object, any act of violence or hostility against the dominions or subjects of his Catholic Majesty. The hostile preparations in the harbour of Ferrol rendered it necessary, in the first instance, that a reinforcement should be added to the squadron cruizing off that port; and orders were at the same time conveyed to the British Admirals to send intimation to the Spanish Government of the instructions they had received, and of their determination, in consequence, to resist, under the present circumstances, the sailing either of the French or Spanish fleets, if any attempt for that purpose should be made by either of them.

His Majesty's pleasure was at the same time signified, that they were not to detain, in the first instance, any ship belonging to his Catholic Majesty, sailing from a port of Spain; but to require the commander of such ship to return directly to the port from whence he came, and only, in the event of his refusing to comply with such requisition, to detain, and send her to Gibraltar or to England.

Further directions were given not to detain any Spanish homeward bound ships of war, unless they should have treasure on board, nor merchant ships of that nation, however laden, on any account whatsoever. That, in the prosecution of these measures of precaution, many valuable lives have been sacrificed, is a subject of much regret to his Majesty, who laments it as an event produced alone by an unhappy concurrence of circumstancees, but which can in no degree affect the merits of the case. The question of the just principle, and due exercise of his Majesty's right, rests upon every foundation of the laws of nature and nations, which enjoin and justify the adoption of such measures as are requisite for defence, and the prevention of a g[illegible]s

It remains only further to observe, that if any additional proof were requisite of the wisdom and necessity of precautionary measures, that proof would be found even in the declaration relied upon in the manifesto of Spain, in which its government now states itself to have contemplated from the beginning of the war, the necessity of making itself a party to it, in support of the pretensions of France, expressly declaring, that "Spain and Holland, who treated conjointly with France at Amiens, and whose interests and political relations were so closely connected with her, must have with difficulty refrained from taking part against injuries and insults offered to their ally."

It will further appear, by a reference to the dates and results of the several representations made by his Majesty's Charge d'Affaires at the Court of Spain, that the detention of the Spanish treasure ships never was in question during the discussions which preceded his departure from Madrid. That ground of complaint, therefore, which has since been so much relied upon, formed no part of the motive of the previous hostile character so strongly manifested by the Spanish Court in their mode of treating the points in discussion, nor (as will appear in the sequel) of the final rupture of the negociation at Madrid.

On the 26th of October 1804, his Majesty's Charge d'Affaires presented a note to the Spanish Minister, in which the following conditions were insisted upon, as preliminary to the appointment of a Minister from Great Britain, who might treat of the adjustment of other matters which remained for discussion. The conditions were three: First, that the orders given at Ferrol, Cadiz, and Carthagena, should be countermanded, as well for the equipment of ships of war in any of those ports, as for their removal from one of those ports to another.--Secondly, that not only the present armaments should be discontinued, but that the establishment of ships of war in the different ports should be replaced on the

footing

footing on which they stood at the commencement of hostilities between England and France. Thirdly, that a full disclosure should be made of the existing engagements, and of the future intentions of Spain with respect to France. From the period above mentioned to the 2d of November, several official notes passed between his Majesty's Charge d'Affaires and the Spanish Minister, consisting, with little variation in their tenor, of urgent demands of satisfaction on the one side, and of evasive and unsatisfactory replies on the other.

After renewed delays and reiterated applications, his Majesty's Charge d'Affaires received his passports on the 7th of November, and departed from Madrid on the 14th of that month. During the whole of this negociation, no mention was made of the detention of the Spanish treasure ships, nor does it any where appear that an account had been received at Madrid of that transaction. It is evident, therefore, notwithstanding the attempt made by the Spanish Court to avail itself of that event, in the manifesto which has been since published, that the state of war must equally have arisen between Great Britain and Spain, had the detention never taken place, and that, in point of fact, the rupture ultimately took place on grounds distinct from, and totally unconnected with that measure.

The leading circumstances which characterize the reiterated abuses of his Majesty's moderation, were each of them of a nature to have exhausted any less settled system of lenity and forbearance. Succours afforded to his enemies; explanations refused or evaded, after repeated demands; conditions violated after distinct notice that on them depended the continuance of peace. Such has been the conduct of the Spanish Court, and it is under these circumstances that his Majesty finds the domineering influence of France exerted, and the Spanish nation in a state of declared and open war.

His Majesty appeals with confidence to all Europe for the acknowledgement of his exemplary moderation in the whole course of these transactions. His Majesty feels with regret the necessity which places him in a state of hostility with Spain; and would with heartfelt satisfaction observe, on the part of that country, the assumption of a more dignified sense of national importance, and a more independent exercise of sovereign rights.

His Majesty would indeed be most happy to discover in the Councils of Spain, a reviving sense of those ancient feelings and honourable propensities which have at all times been so congenial to the Spanish character, and which in better times have marked the conduct of its Government.—His Majesty will, on his part, eagerly embrace the first opportunity, thus offered, of resuming a state of peace and confidence with a nation which has so many ties of common interest to connect it with Great Britain, and which he has hitherto been ever disposed to regard with sentiments of the utmost consideration and esteem.

Downing Street, Feb. 1805.

The following is the last Note from the Spanish Ambassador at London, to Lord Harrowby, then Secretary for Foreign Affairs.—As the arguments and explanations contained in it have afforded grounds of opposition in both Houses of Parliament to the conduct of Administration towards Spain in the late negociation, we give it at length.

LAST SPANISH NOTE.

Portland Place, Dec. 22. 1804.

MY LORD,

AFTER the abrupt and unexpected manner in which the British Charge d'Affaires at Madrid has broken off all communication with the Spanish Cabinet, I might dispense with calling to your Excellency's attention the pacific proceedings which have constantly been followed by my Court towards England; but desiring to shew to the last moment that spirit of conciliation which constitutes the essence of my mission, and the distinguishing characteristic of my Sovereign, I have thought it my duty to make yet one more effort to shew the frank and friendly conduct which the King has always displayed since the rupture between France and England, amidst the difficulties of his situation with regard to the two belligerent powers.

From the moment the King had learned the commencement of hostilities, his Majesty gave all his attention to the system which he would have to follow in such a conjuncture, in order to conciliate his engagements as the ally of France with his duties of friendship towards England. Altho' his quality of

auxiliary

auxiliary to the first of these powers, was in nowise incompatible with that of friendship to the second, he was perfectly sensible, that the British Government would, with difficulty, consent to his furnishing to France the succours stipulated by the treaty of 1796. In order to remove every hostile appearance in his connections with the latter power, he proposed to his ally a new treaty, by which pecuniary succours should be substituted for the succours in troops and ships; and the King at last obtained the object of his amicable views, by a new treaty of subsidy.

Confiding in the uprightness of his intentions, his Majesty was persuaded that the British Government would appreciate this unequivocal mark of friendship.——The complaints by Mr Frere against this convention—and which he has often renewed,—were therefore a real subject of surprise to his Catholic Majesty. Nevertheless, answers full of moderation and candour were made to them, as it was solely out of regard to them that his Majesty had determined to conclude such treaty.

At nearly the same time, his Britannic Majesty's Minister having addressed to my Court representations on the armaments which he pretended were carrying on in our ports, and which he supposed to be directed against England, his Majesty ordered answers to be in like manner made to him, "That the views of the Spanish Government were very far from any motive of hostility; that his Britannic Majesty could not mistake the pacific intentions of the King of Spain, who had given him so many incontestible proofs of his friendship; and that these proofs were manifested, as well in the sacrifices made by the King to secure peace, as in the severity exercised, even before it was demanded, towards those of his subjects who had acted contrary to the duties of neutrality; in fine, that, according to these data, there did not exist the least cause for apprehending that Spain would engage in further armaments, for that would be acting against her pacific system."

At the same time, as the Court of Madrid was not enabled to form an exact judgment of the principles which the British Government proposed to follow, his Britannic Majesty's Minister at last particularised in a note on the 18th February last, the conditions on which his government would be disposed to recognise the neutrality of Spain. These conditions were, the suspension of all ulterior armament, and the prohibition of the sale of prizes in his Majesty's dominions. Not having exacted others, it is perfectly clear, that the British Ministry engaged itself thereby to respect the neutrality, as soon as the King, my master, should acquiesce in their conditions.

His Majesty, resolved to make every sacrifice compatible with the welfare of his people, forbid the sale of prizes in his kingdoms; which prohibition took place on the 23d March last:—And with regard to the armaments he renewed the assurances, the sincerity of which was guaranteed by the lively interest his Majesty has constantly attached to the maintenance of peace.

This eagerness of the King to fulfil all the wishes of the British cabinet, and the painful sacrifices which his Majesty had just made of the advantage which the sale of prizes in the ports of Spain held out to Spanish commerce, ought to have completed the confidence of England, and to have eradicated from the opinion of its government every doubt on the pacific sentiments of my Court: accordingly, the English Minister seemed to have felt all the value of such sacrifices, since he brought forward no more complaints, and the most perfect harmony seemed every day to unite more and more the two governments.

Such were the relations subsisting between the two nations, when, in the month of September last, some discontent having broke out in Biscay, his Majesty ordered the embarkation of part of the troops in Ferrol, to the place where the disorder has occurred. The enemies of Spain, sounding the alarm, under the pretext that considerable armaments were carrying on in our ports, sought to communicate their feigned uneasiness to the British government, the British Charge d'Affaires, hurried off by reports which malevolence had exaggerated, and without examining the nature, extent, or well-known object, made complaints of them in a note, in which he represented them as an hostile aggression against his government, and as a defiance given to England, and expressed himself in terms not less injurious

rious to the reputation of the King, than contrary to the relations which subsisted between the two countries.

Although such reproaches, in return for the proofs which the King has always given of his eagerness to strengthen the bonds of friendship which united him to the British Government, were of a nature to excite in him the greatest surprise, his Majesty, nevertheless, directed answers to the intemperate representations of Mr Frere, to be made with that moderation which is the most striking point in the history of his political conduct; a moderation the more signal from this circumstance, that the above-mentioned armament which excited so much sensation, was confined within the limits prescribed by an agreement, which was concluded on the 19th of October 1803, between the two Governments, since it was restricted to the same number of vessels which were already armed before this epoch; and the armament in question had been suspended by his Majesty's orders some days before the British Charge d'Affaires had brought forward his complaint on the subject.

The British Government, on their side, forgetting on a sudden the pacific relations which they had maintained several months with my Sovereign, without waiting for less suspicious information on our preparations at Ferrol, and without paying attention to the information which is transmitted to it thro' the channel of your Excellency, on the innocence and the true object of these pretended armaments, did not hesitate to give that extraordinary order, which, as well from its nature as from its disastrous consequence, must have struck with horror every Cabinet in Europe. Instead of beginning by demanding explanations from my Court on the subject of these alarms, it breaks off the good understanding which subsisted between the two nations, by an act of hostility, of which the most rancorous war scarcely affords an example. The 5th of October was witness to the shedding of the blood of several women and children, who perished victims of an unheard-of violence! and this blood was shed by the hands of a nation, whose Government themselves declare afterwards, that they are not at war with Spain.

Before the news of this dreadful event came to the knowledge of the King, the British Charge d'Affaires seems to have made it his business to exasperate his Majesty by all imaginable means. Not being able to conceal from himself the frivolity of his accusations relative to our preparations at Ferrol, since their existence had ceased a long time before he was obliged to call to his aid some new grievances, as slightly founded as they are destitute of good faith. He made new demands, some of them contrary to what had been agreed upon between the two Governments, the others entirely inadmissible from their injurious tendency. Thus it is that he exacted from my Court the engagement, "that no armament whatever should be carried on in the ports of Spain, whilst his Government and himself had consented that the naval forces of Spain should be kept up on the same footing as they were at the time of the above-mentioned agreement. Thus it is, that he pretended his Majesty had always refused to give a distinct explanation of his engagements with France; that without this previous communication the British Government had never been willing to consent to the neutrality of Spain; in short, he ended, by imperiously demanding this communication, without declaring what would be the ulterior conduct of his Court.

The conditions fixed by England for the acknowledgement of the neutrality, had not comprised the necessity of a similar communication, and sufficiently authorised his Majesty not to attend to a demand of this nature.—immediately after the conclusion of the treaty of subsidy, the British Government addressed to my Court representations, not demanding a distinct explanation of the engagements in that treaty, but positively "to declare that the furnishing the pecuniary advances, as stipulated in the Convention with France, could not be looked upon otherwise than as a war Subsidy, &c. That his Government was at that time thoroughly acquainted with the contents of the above-mentioned Convention. Had it been otherwise, could Mr Frere have held this language without knowing the extent of our subsidies, especially after having declared in the same note, "that his Government was disposed to overlook such pecuniary sacrifices as should not be of sufficient magnitude to force attention

tention on account of their political effects?" If, therefore, they were acquainted with the amount of the sums which his Majesty had to pay to France, what end do they propose in demanding the disclosure of a secret which they know?

Supposing his Majesty's engagements with France, respecting subsidies, should still remain a mystery to the British Government, they have no longer a right to demand a distinct explanation on this subject, as a condition essential to the maintenance of peace. If the British Government thought it right to make it a condition, without which they would not respect the neutrality of Spain, they ought to have expressly declared so at the epoch when they fixed the basis of a solid and permanent neutrality. Not having then acted in this manner, they had no longer a right to do so; since it would leave to England a facility of continually adding fresh conditions to those already agreed on.

Notwithstanding all these motives, his Majesty even condescended to make an explicit and satisfactory answer, that the subsidies stipulated by the convention are but an equivalent for the succours in troops and ships which he was obliged by the treaty of 1796 to furnish to France, and that, in that convention, there is no article prejudicial to England, or contrary to the laws of neutrality. This moderate, frank, and satisfactory answer of my Court produced fresh complaints from the British charge d'affaires, who demanded his passports. His Majesty, constantly faithful to his principles of moderation, endeavoured to prevent the consequences of so extraordinary a demand, and reiterated to him the most amicable assurances, as well on the subsidies, as on the armaments; but all his efforts have been useless. At length, perceiving that he was obstinate and wishing to leave Madrid, since in the space of seven days he had four times demanded his passports, and that at the last solicitation, he had even threatened to remain there as a private individual, or to depart without passports, the King found himself under the necessity of granting them, however unpleasing for his Majesty might be the consequence of so precipitate a step.

While this unexpected stroke deprived his Majesty of all the hopes he had still then entertained, his heart was penetrated with deep affliction, on learning the dreadful event of the 9th of October, and the disastrous circumstances by which it had been accompanied. Although the details, which he had received from all quarters, and the uniformity of all accounts, gave to this intelligence all the force of an indubitable fact, his Majesty could not persuade himself that it had been caused by an order of the British Government. His Majesty has consequently ordered me to demand of them categorical explanations on the detension of his frigates, on the instructions which may have been sent to the English Commanders, and on the motives which may have induced the British charge d'Affaires to break off all communication with the Spanish Ministry.

Notwithstanding the coincidence of such alarming intelligence, with the conduct of Mr Frere, the King could not resolve to take any measure which had the least appearance of hostility. So much had he at heart the continuance of peace! It was not till after having learnt, in an authentic manner, the act of violence exercised on the abovementioned frigates, by virtue of an express order of the British Government, that his Majesty found himself under the necessity, in order to consult the interests of his people, to order an embargo to be laid, by way of reprisals, on all English property throughout his dominions.

In this state of things, if the King can no longer flatter himself with the hope of an accommodation, if the system manifested for some time past by England seems to render inevitable a rupture between two nations, of which the reciprocal interest ought to lead them to live always in good understanding with each other, his Majesty has not at least abandoned the desire to listen to pacific overtures, and is still disposed to avail himself of all the means of conciliation which may be compatible with the dignity of his Crown, and the safety of his kingdom.

But if, notwithstanding this conciliatory and pacific declaration, which I have the honour, conformably to the wishes of the King, my master, to make to your Excellency, the British Government should decide on taking the resolution to declare open war against him, his Majesty, in that case,

confiding

confiding in the fidelity of his subjects, and in the purity of his conscience, will have recourse to forces which Providence has entrusted to him for the defence of his people, and will commit to the fortune of war the result of a conduct which he has in no degree provoked, and with the consequences of which he will accordingly not have to reproach himself. I avail myself of this opportunity, &c. (Signed)

The Chev. D'ANDUAGA.

On the 25th January, the Spanish Ambassador, the Chev. D'Anduaga, left London for Harwich, where he embarked with his suite on the 10th February, in a neutral vessel for Holland.

His Majesty has followed his declaration against Spain by measures which do equal honour to the Royal feelings, and the magnanimity of the British character. While the statements contained in the declaration, and the documents laid before Parliament, must satisfy Europe of the justice of our cause, instructions have been issued to our squadron not to molest neutral vessels on their passage to the Spanish ports with supplies of grain, during the dreadful scarcity which afflicts that country.—The orders have been worded in terms so very general as to preclude all dispute with respect to the article of supply being the property of the subjects of Spain.

"Whereas we have judged it expedient that interruption should not be given to the supplying the Kingdom of Spain, in its present distress, with grain, notwithstanding the existing hostilities,—We do hereby direct and enjoin the Commanders of our ships of war and privateers not to molest any neutral vessel, laden solely with grain, and going to Spain, to whomsoever the said grain may belong, unless it be brought from or destined to a blockaded port."

The Transport Board has also received orders to take especial care that all the private property belonging to the crews, officers, and men of the captured Spanish frigates, shall be immediately restored to the owners. This injunction has been already carried into effect in several instances.

In the mean time, the British squadron under Sir John Orde, in the Bay of Cadiz, has made a great number more of valuable captures.—The Fisguard frigate, Capt. Lord Mark Kerr, had taken off Cape St Vincent, no less than 12 ships, valued at £.150,000.—Sir John Orde has intimated to the Governor of Cadiz, that that port was declared in a state of blockade.

At Barcelona, there prevailed the greatest apprehension of a bombardment by Lord Nelson's fleet.

The Governor of Catalonia had caused notice to be given, that the English Commander had received orders to sink all vessels belonging to Spain or her allies, under 100 tons burden; to take all those of 100 tons, or upwards: and to burn all such as should be moored or anchored on the coast. These orders had begun to be executed. A vessel which had been dispatched to Port Mahon, with a company of artillery, was captured on her return. The English have also taken three transports, having on board 1000 men of the regiment of Castilian volunteers, destined for the same place, and sent them to Malta; the women have been sent back to Barcelona.

It will be seen from his Majesty's speech, (in our last, p. 76.) that a communication had been received from the French Government, containing professions of a pacific disposition, and that an answer had been returned, expressing his Majesty's earnest desire for the restoration of Peace, on such grounds as may be consistent with the permanent interest and safety of his dominions, and the general security of Europe. His Majesty declines any further explanation, without a previous communication with his Continental Allies, particularly with the Emperor of Russia.

That these overtures will be followed by any further steps towards a negociation for Peace is not likely.—Neither in Napoleon's first *Imperial* speech to the Legislative Body, nor in the annual exposition of the state of the Republic presented to the same Body, p. 139, 142. is there any thing that breathes of Peace. The tone, if less petulant and abusive than usual, is not less lofty and authoritative.

The following is stated to be the manner in which this unexpected communication was received. On the 7th January, the Tickler, gun-brig, arrived in the Downs, with a French officer, who was taken out of a fishing vessel, which came out of Boulogne harbour, bearing

a flag of truce. He had a dispatch from Talleyrand to Lord Harrowby, which was sent express from Paris to Boulogne, with orders that it should be forwarded without delay to some of the British cruizers, and that the officer, who is an Ensign de Vaisseau, should accompany it. The officer was put on board the flag-ship in the Downs, and the dispatch sent express to Lord Harrowby's office the same night. The officer was detained till the 18th, when an answer was returned from the Secretary's office, along with a copy of the King's speech, and the address of both Houses of Parliament.

The specific terms of Napoleon's letter, and of the answer to it, have not been divulged in England. But they have been presented by Talleyrand to the Conservative Senate of France, and to the Legislative Body and Tribunate, by their respective orators, accompanied by the wildest and most extravagant invectives against the government and people of this country. We are thus enabled to give these interesting pieces entire.

Bonaparte's Letter To the King of Great Britain.

Sir and Brother, (Monsieur mon Frere),

CALLED to the throne of France by Providence, and by the suffrages of the people and the army, my first sentiment is a wish for peace. France and England abuse their prosperity. They may contend for ages—but do their Governments well fulfil the most sacred of their duties, and will not so much blood, shed uselessly, and without a view to any end, accuse them in their own consciences? I consider it as no disgrace to make the first step. I have, I hope, sufficiently proved to the world, that I fear none of the chances of war; it besides presents nothing that I need to fear. Peace is the wish of my heart, but war has never been contrary to my glory. I conjure your Majesty not to deny yourself the happiness of giving peace to the world, nor to leave that sweet satisfaction to your children; for, in fine, there never was a more fortunate opportunity, nor a moment more favourable, to silence all the passions, and listen only to the sentiments of humanity and reason. This moment once lost, what end can be assigned to a war which all my efforts will not be able to terminate? Your Majesty has gained more within ten years, both in territory and riches, than the whole extent of Europe.—Your nation is at the highest point of prosperity; what can it hope from war? To form a coalition of some powers on the Continent? the Continent will remain tranquil: a coalition can only increase the preponderance and continental greatness of France—To renew internal troubles? The times are no longer the same. To destroy our finances? Finances founded on a flourishing culture can never be destroyed. To take from France her colonies? Colonies to France are only a secondary object: and does not your Majesty already possess more than you know how to preserve? If your Majesty would but reflect, you must perceive that the war is without an object, without any presumable result to yourself. Alas! what a melancholy prospect to cause two nations to fight for the sake of fighting; the world is sufficiently large for our two nations to live in it; and reason sufficiently powerful to discover means of reconciling every thing when the wish for reconciliation exists on both sides. I have, however, fulfilled a sacred duty, and one which is precious to my heart. I trust your Majesty will believe in the sincerity of my sentiments, and my wish to give you every proof of it, &c."

(Signed) Napoleon.

(*Jan.* 2. 1805.)

Lord Mulgrave's Answer.

"His Majesty has received the letter which has been addressed to him by the head of the French Government, dated the 2d of the present month. There is no object which his Majesty has more at heart than to avail himself of the first opportunity to procure again to his subjects the advantages of a peace, founded on a basis which may not be incompatible with the permanent security and essential interests of his States. His Majesty is persuaded that this end can only be attained by arrangements, which may at the same time provide for the future safety and tranquillity of Europe, and prevent the recurrence of the dangers and calamities in which it is involved. Conformably to this sentiment, his

his Majesty feels that it is impossible for him to answer more particularly to the overture that has been made him, until he shall have had time to communicate with the powers of the Continent, with whom he is engaged in confidential connections and relations, and particularly with the Emperor of Russia, who has given the strongest proofs of the wisdom and elevation of the sentiments with which he is animated, and the lively interest which he takes in the safety and independence of Europe.

(Signed) MULGRAVE."

FEVER AT GIBRALTAR.

The Tribune frigate has arrived from Gibraltar, with General Trigge, the late Lieutenant-Governor on board. By this convevance, letters have been received to the 28th of December, which communicate the satisfactory intelligence, that the contagion had compleatly ceased, both in the town and garrison. Only three persons died in the garrison the week before the Tribune sailed, and none of them of the fever. It was, however, deemed prudent not to open the regular communication between the inhabitants and the shipping in the Bay until the 1st of January, on which day there now can be no doubt that the measure was carried into effect. General Fox and his suite landed on the 18th of December; but the troops, &c. sent out with him, were not to be disembarked until the day of opening the communication.

The letters express great satisfaction at the arrival of General Fox, and at the vigorous measures he has adopted for extirpating the contagion in that garrison. All carts were put in requisition, and ordered every day, Sunday included, in removing those loads of filth and rubbish which had been suffered to accumulate in the streets of the town, and from which the disease certainly acquired much of its malignity. The General had also appointed a Board of Health, of which General Drummond was president. The other Members were Drs Bolton, Fellows, and Byam, with Messrs Ross, Smith, Sweetland, Rankine, and Allardice, five of the most respectable merchants of the place, who are to meet as occasion may require, and to point out the most effectual means for purifying the town, and for guarding against a similar calamity ever being imported into Gibraltar; and which, it is now ascertained, this dreadful pestilence undoubtedly was, both from Malaga and other parts of Spain. The same letters from Gibraltar add, that General Fox had, with great prudence and propriety excluded any of the faculty from being Members of the Board of Health, who so unfortunately mistook the nature of the disease at its commencement, as to pronounce it to be neither malignant nor contagious; in consequence of which, no measures were taken for a considerable time, either for preventing its spreading in the garrison, or communicating the disease to the neighbouring countries, which we are extremely sorry to find, has been done by vessels from Gibraltar; between sixty and seventy of which sailed from that port, with clean bills of health, and upwards of one thousand passengers on board, at the time when the pestilence was raging in the place.

The disorder which has made such dreadful ravages at Gibraltar is by no means, as has been generally supposed, the yellow, bilious intermittent fever of the West Indies, but a highly malignant, pestilential fever, of the Typhus kind, nearly resembling the plague, except its being unaccompanied with buboes or carbuncles.

On the 21st a most violent storm of wind and rain took place at Gibraltar, which compleatly swept away the tents at Europa Point, and drove them into the sea: several vessels were also driven on shore.

On the 23d the Captain of an English vessel lying in the Bay went on shore on the neutral ground to endeavour to get off one of his boats which had been stranded near the Spanish lines, when one of the Spanish sentries fired at him and killed him.

LOSS OF THE DORIS FRIGATE.

The following particulars of the loss of the Doris frigate, are given by an officer of that ship:

"On the night of the 12th January, as the Doris was proceeding to Quiberon Bay, through the Benequet Passage, she struck upon a sunken rock called the Diamond Rock, and in consequence made so much water that Captain Campbell, was obliged to throw

all her guns, and every weighty article, overboard. During the following day, it blew a tremendous gale S. W. but the weather moderating on the day following, they gained upon the leak, and in the evening she sailed for England, with a fine breeze, accompanied by the Felix tender. In the night it blew hard, with a heavy sea, which tore off the foddering which had been put under her bottom to stop the leak, and the water gushed in with such violence that every exertion to keep it under proved ineffectual—she became waterlogged, would not answer her helm, and had drifted considerably to leeward during the night.

"In this predicament, Capt. Campbell finding it impossible to keep her above water, determined to abandon her, and accordingly brought her to an anchor.—" Our situation," says our informant, "was very critical; we were on the most dangerous part of the coast, between a reef of rocks off Croisic (near the mouth of the Loire) called Le Four, and a rock called the Birks. There was an excessive heavy squall running, and we could see the breakers directly astern, about three miles distant. Happily the wind abated, or we all must have perished. At this time a Danish brig was drifted by the tide, and part of our people were put on board her, with orders to proceed to England; the rest, including the Captain and most of the Officers, in all 115, got on board the Felix, with a few portable articles. Capt. Campbell then set the Doris on fire: In a short time after, the magazine blew up and she immediately went down.

"On the 30th the Felix fell in with the squadron under the orders of Sir T. Graves, and delivered the Doris's people on board the Tonnant, which ship left that station the 21st January for England.

Loss of Captain Jervis.

We are sorry to announce the melancholy fate of Captain Jervis, of his Majesty's ship La Tonnant, who was unfortunately drowned.

Capt. Jervis, in the Tonnant, joined the fleet off Ushant on the 24th Jan. but it blew so hard, that he could not communicate to the Admiral (Sir C. Cotton) the dispatches with which Sir T. Graves had charged him. A like cause confined him to his ship on the following day; but it having moderated on the 26th, Captain Jervis accompanied by Captain Campbell, late of the Doris, set off in a six-oared cutter for the San Josef (the flag ship;) he had not, however, proceeded far, when a sea struck and capsized the boat. Captain Jervis could not swim, but the cockswain of the boat caught and held him up for a considerable time, until he was quite exhausted, and they both sunk at the instant that the people in L'Impetueux's boat were reaching out to save them. The estimable and universally lamented Captain never rose, but the Cockswain again floated, and was again sinking, when a man in the boat caught him with the boat-hook, and hauled him on board—he was apparently dead, but has since recovered. A sailor was drowned, and Captain Campbell would have shared the same fate, had he not supported himself on an oar.

Capt. Jervis was nephew and heir of Earl St Vincent, and treasurer of Greenwich hospital.

Law Intelligence.

Court of King's Bench—*Feb.* 8.

Admiral Sir Henry Harvey v. *Capt. David Milne.*

This was an action to recover the Flag-eighth of certain captures made by the defendant, the Captain of La Pique. The facts were, that La Pique being stationed off Demerara, in 1803, the Governor of the settlement prevailed upon Captain Milne to convoy a fleet of merchantmen from thence to St Kitts, where it was supposed the defendant would have received further orders from Admiral Harvey, who was the flag officer upon the Leeward Island station; but Capt. Milne, after waiting some time at St Kitts, and receiving no orders, anxious for the safety of the fleet, which was valuable, made himself responsible for his conduct, and proceeded to England with the convoy without orders. At the entrance of the Channel he made several captures, and the question was, whether the plaintiff was entitled to his eighth of the prizes so made?

The Court thought, as Captain Milne had

had acted without orders from his superior Officer, it could not be said that Admiral Hervey was directing and assisting in the captures he afterwards made; nor indeed in any respect privy thereto, which he was obliged to be by his Majesty's Proclamation before he would be entitled to his eighth share.—It was true the defendant had taken upon himself a deep responsibility; but it also appeared that his motives were strictly honourable, and the Lords of the Admiralty had approved his conduct. The Court was therefore of opinion that the Plaintiff was not entitled to recover.

Wednesday the 20th February being the day appointed by royal proclamation for a public fasting and humiliation before Almighty God, to beseech forgiveness of our sins, and pray for success to his Majesty's arms, the two Houses of Parliament, the Corporation of London, and several of the volunteer corps, attended divine service, as is usual upon such occasions.

The House of Lords went to Henry the VII's Chapel in Westminster Abbey, where a most excellent sermon was preached by the Right Rev. the Bishop of Rochester.

The House of Commons heard prayers, and a most impressive sermon, by the Rev. Charles Henry Hall, Chaplain to the House of Commons, at St Margaret's Church, near the Abbey. The Speaker was escorted to and from church by a party of the City of Westminster Loyal Volunteers.

On the 8th January the Highland Society met at the Crown and Anchor tavern, in the Strand. The Marquis of Douglas was in the Chair.—Present, the Duke of Athol, Sir John Macpherson, Gen. Stewart, and about fifty other Noblemen and Gentlemen. After partaking of an excellent dinner, and the cloth removed, the Noble Chairman gave as a toast, "The King and the Royal Family," which was drank with enthusiasm; "the Highland Society," and many other loyal effusions were displayed. Several Highland songs were sung in Erse, by gentlemen amateurs, which were highly applauded. The Duke of Sussex was proposed and admitted a member; on the 9th of March, an extraordinary meeting is to take place to receive his Royal Highness.

Government is said to have contracted with a mercantile house in the West Indies, for a supply of 5000 African negroes, from the age of 16 to 30, to serve as soldiers in the Leeward Islands. The contract is to be completed within a year, and application has been made by the contractors to merchants in London and Liverpool, to assist them in completing their engagement. A gentleman of the latter place has agreed to furnish one thousand negroes at 55l per head.

SCOTLAND.

COURT OF SESSION.

Election of Borough Magistrates and Councillors.

A case from the Borough of Inverury was lately decided by the Court of Session, and is interesting to the Boroughs at large.

Magistrates and Counsellors are obliged, by law, to take and subscribe the oaths of allegiance, abjuration, and assurance, within three months after their admission into office, and which any of the Magistrates themselves are empowered by Act of Parliament to administer; but the statute specifies no time, at which it is necessary to qualify, it having been generally understood, that no more is legally required, than that they should take and subscribe these oaths within three months after such Magistrates and Counsellors shall accept of, and act, in their respective offices; an absolute neglect of this enactment being in practice annually provided against by an act of indemnity.

Lieut.-Col. Robinson, on the half pay of the 15th regiment of foot, was elected, in his absence, a counsellor of Inverury, at Michaelmas 1803, and had no opportunity of attending his duty in the borough, till the 20th of September last, when he presented himself in the council-room for qualification; but this form was at first postponed on some pretence, and next day peremptorily denied him by a majority of council, on this ground in particular, that the hour of election of the Magistrates and Council for the following year had arrived, and that no other business could be regularly transacted.

Colonel Robinson having however repeated the oaths along with the other members of Council, voted with the minority

nority under protest, which, but for the rejection of the Colonel's vote, would have been the majority.

The party in Council who refused to qualify the Colonel, declared their own friends duly elected; but, upon a summary complaint to the Court for redress, their Lordships unanimously preferred the election by the alledged minority, considering the conduct of the pretended majority, consisting of the Provost and his adherents, a most unwarrantable manœuvre for serving an election purpose.

The persons complained of (who were four in number) as being duly elected by a pretended Majority, were accordingly found each of them liable in the statutory penalty of 100l. to Colonel Robinson, and the other complainers, for presuming to act as Magistrates or Councillors of the said Borough, and in costs of suit.

On the 29th January, a cause of much interest to the parties as individuals, and of deep importance to the constitution and future government of the United College of St Andrew's, was determined by the Court of Session. On the 1st of December last, a double election took place to the Chair of Natural Philosophy, vacant by the death of Dr Rotheram. (see January Magazine.) The meeting consisted of eight persons. Three Professors and the Principal voted for Mr Jackson, Rector of the Academy at Ayr; and four Professors for the Rev. Dr M'Donald, Minister of Kembach; and both parties proceeded to appoint the admission and induction of the respective candidates. On application to the Supreme Court, the admission of both gentlemen was suspended. After the forms of Court, Lord Craig appointed the parties to give in printed memorials, that the case might be reported to the Court. The merits of the election chiefly depended upon the decision of this question, Whether, at the meeting of the Professors, at which he presides, the Principal of this College is entitled to give both a deliberative and a casting vote? Against the claim advanced by Principal Playfair to a double vote, it was contended, 1. That the terms of the foundation charters, and the constitution of the United College, did not confer on the Principal a right to a double vote, but carefully excluded the exercise of any such right. 2. That the privilege assumed by Principal Playfair, was adverse to the practice of the College. Lastly, That where it is not settled by *express grant*, the Principal has, *de jure*, no vote in cases of election, or other pieces of business, except in cases of equality.

Both parties argued these three points at great length, each drawing conclusions and inferences from the foundation charters, the practice of the College, and the common law of the country, favourable to their own plea. After a full hearing, the question was decided in favour of the election of Mr M'Donald, by a majority of ten to three.—This decision determines the right of the Principal of the United College of St Andrew's to be limited to a single casting vote. On the 14th February Mr Macdonald was accordingly admitted Professor of Natural Philosophy.

The Court of Session lately decided a process of suspension, in which Mr W. Watson, flesher, was complainer, and the Magistrates of Glasgow, respondents, which fixes a point of some importance with regard to the powers of the latter in the superintendance of public markets. The Magistrates had ordered Mr Watson to give up a part of his stall in the market to a freeman flesher who was unaccommodated, on the footing that Mr Watson's stall was large enough to admit of the measure, and still allow him as much accommodation for his business as any person in the market. Mr Watson maintained, that the Magistrates, having once established him in a stall, had no power to deprive him of it; and besides, that the scale of his business entitled him to the whole: and on these grounds he presented a bill of suspension and interdict, which was refused by the Lord Ordinary on the bills. Mr Watson then presented a petition to the whole House, who refused it without answers, unanimously sustaining the power of the Magistrates.

Mr John Mitchell, minister of Fintry, having given in a demission of his office to the presbytery of Dumbarton, they on the 5th February accepted of the same; and, in consequence, found that parish vacant. At the same time, they suspended him from the office of the holy ministry, and discharged him from exercising the functions thereof.

At a meeting of the Justices of Peace

Peace of Ayrshire, held at Galston the 10th February, there was a complaint brought before them, at the instance of the Countess of Loudon and Moira, against Robert Ayton, tenant to her Ladyship, at Dalwhatswood, for cutting wood and carrying it off for his own behoof. The Justices, upon the clearest evidence, found the facts proven, and fined Ayton in 20l. Sterling, and expences; of which fine, they appropriated 10l. to the Glasgow Infirmary, and 10l. to the poor of the parish of Loudon, and the wood to be given up.

A few days ago, there was pulled upon the farm of Ward-dykes, near Arbroath, occupied by Mr David Weir, a turnip, which measured 40 inches in circumference, and weighed 25 pounds English.

A famous bullock, bred by the late Colonel Hamilton of Pencarland, was sold within these few days, by public roup for ninety-seven pounds Sterling, to a butcher in Edinburgh. He is allowed by all Judges to be of a remarkable fine quality, and it is certainly the highest price ever given in Scotland for a bullock for slaughter.—He weighed 140 stones.

On the 13th February Rankine Kennedy, flesher in Maybole, killed a hog, aged one year and nine months, reared by William, M'Gill in Drumullen, parish of Maybole, which weighed 34 stones English.

On the 11th February, Northallerton show commenced, and continued five days; when a greater number of dealers attended than ever were remembered. A great number of good horses sold at uncommon high prices; and when purchased, were obliged to be taken away immediately, in order to accommodate others with stabling.

There is a charity in Edinburgh called *Horn's charity*, of which, as it appears to be very little known, the following account may be acceptable to our readers:

"In 1741, Captain Alexander Horn, of the city of London, by his last will, bequeathed 3500l. Old and New South Sea Annuities, to be disposed of at the discretion of the Lord Provost, Bailies, Dean of Guild and Treasurer of the city of Edinburgh (on account of their early appearance and noble stand in the cause of liberty,) as follows:—The interest of 2500l. on Christmas day yearly to such day-labourers of Edinburgh, as, by the inclemency of weather, may be set idle and reduced to want; interest of 1000l. to day-labourers, as aforesaid, in Potter-row, Bristo, and West Port; and the interest of 1000l. to day-labourers, as aforesaid, of the neighbouring parish of Libberton; 100l. to the Royal Infirmary, 100l. to the Orphan Hospital, and 100l. to the Society in Scotland for propagating Christian Knowledge. No family to receive above 5l. Sterling per annum, or under fifty shillings."

Civil Appointments.

The Right Rev. Dr Chas. Manners Sutton, Bishop of Norwich, is promoted to be Archbishop of Canterbury. On the 20th Feb. his Grace was consecrated at Bow Church, according to antient custom, attended by a great number of prelates.

Sir T. M. Sutton to be a Baron of Exchequer, vice Sir B. Hotham, resigned.

Robt. Dallas, Esq. to be Chief Justice of Chester.

Vicary Gibbs, Esq. to be Solicitor General.

Sir John Colpoys K. B. is appointed Treasurer of Greenwich Hospital, vice Capt. Jervis, deceased.

Capt. William Hope, a Lord of the Admiralty, vice Colpoys, resigned.

Capt. Bourchier, Lieut. Governor of Greenwich Hospital, vice Sir R. Pearson, deceased.

On the 4th Feb. Sir James Montgomery Bart. was re-elected Member of Parliament for Peebleshire, since his appointment to the office of Lord Advocate.

The Earl of Dalkeith is elected Member for St Michael's, in room of Mr Dallas, Chief Justice of Chester.

The Lord Provost and Council have appointed Mr John Playfair, Professor of Mathematics, to be Professor of Natural Philosophy in the University of Edinburgh, in room of Mr John Robison, deceased.

Mr George Christison is presented to the parish of Gargunnock, by Mrs Edington, the patroness.

Mr Alexander M'Gregor is presented to the parish of Balquhidder, by Sir John Macgregor Murray, of Lanrick, Bart.

MARRIAGES.

MARRIAGES.

Sept. In Pictou, Nova Scotia, Hugh Dewson, Esq. Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, to Miss Jack M'Lean, youngest daughter of the late Hugh M'Lean, Esq. of Kingerloch.

Jan. 21. Walter Whyte, Esq. of Bank-Head, to Miss Anna Maria Macnish, youngest daughter of Mr John Macnish, sen. surgeon.

—. At Chelmsford, Thomas Stirling Edmonstoune, Esq. to Miss Annabella Lockhart.

25. At Edinburgh, Mr Francis Bridges, merchant, to Miss Margaret Hill, eldest daughter of Mr Peter Hill, bookseller.

Feb. 7. At London, Captain Edward O'Bryen, of the Royal Navy, and nephew to the Marquis of Thomond, to Miss Hotham, eldest daughter of General Hotham, and niece to Lord and Sir Beaumont Hotham.

9. The Earl of Clonmell, to Lady Harriet Greville, second daughter of the Earl of Warwick.

—. The Rev. William Dickson, second son of the late Lord Bishop of Down and Connor, to Miss Bettina Webster, niece of the late Sir Godfrey Webster, Bart.

12. At Ryton, near Newcastle, Mr John Brown coachmaker. Abbeyhill, Edinburgh, to Miss Lockey, eldest daughter of William Lockey, Esq. Axwell Park, county of Durham.

Lately, Rear-Admiral George Campbell, brother to Lord Cawdor, to Miss Eustatia Campbell.

BIRTHS.

Jan. 22. At Wellingore, Lincolnshire, the Lady of Lieutenant-Colonel Ainslie, inspector of the district, a daughter.

—. At Inveresk, the Lady of Captain Milne, Royal Navy, of a son.

31. At Bath, Lady Mary Hay, a son.

The Lady of the Hon. Brigadier-General Stewart, of a still-born child.

The Right Hon. Lady Paget, a son.

At Dublin, the Lady of the Lord Bishop of Down, a son.

Mrs Thomson, wife of Mr James Thomson, of the Royal Navy, a son.

The Lady of Brig. General Crosbie, of Northlands, Sussex, a son.

Feb. 19. At Edinburgh, Mrs Maxwell Gordon, a son.

—. At St. Andrews, Mrs Grant of Corgaltoy, a daughter.

Lady Henry Fitzroy, a daughter.

The Lady of William Thornton, Esq. a daughter.

21. At Haddington Barracks, Mrs Captain Charles Stewart, of the Galloway militia, a son.

DEATHS.

Oct. 22. At Novo Mugorod, in the Ukraine, Alexander Ouchterlony, late merchant in Narva.

Oct. 28. In Jamaica, John Kelley, Esq of Tamarind Grove.

At Mount Merrion, near Dublin, Mr George Battier, late of his Majesty's ship Resolution, which, with the Discovery, circumnavigated the globe with Captain Cook. This intrepid mariner was present with the unfortunate Captain at the fatal period of his death, and made a bold and vigorous defence against the savages in the island of O'. Whyee.

At sea, upon the 27th December last, on his passage from Gibraltar, Mr Jas. Black, Master of his Majesty's ship Tribune.

Jan. 18. On the coast of Ireland, after a short illness, Mr George MacDonald, acting Lieutenant on board his Majesty's ship Lapwing; a young man, who was beloved by his brother officers, and promised to be an ornament to the service. He was buried at Cove of Cork with naval honours, all the officers of the squadron, attending. He was the eldest son of Thomas Macdonald, Esq. writer to the signet, and first Commissioner of the Board for deciding on the claims of his Majesty's subjects under the convention with America.

—. 25. At Greenock, in the 88th year of his age, Captain Alex. Morison, of the late North Carolina Highlanders, well known in his circle of acquaintance for his zeal and activity in the suppression of the rebellion in 1745, as well as in the American revolution. He assisted Mr M'Pherson, not only in collecting the traditions, but in digesting, translating, and writing Ossian. His knowledge of the Gaelic language was often referred to by the Highland Society of London, of which he was a member. He was a man strictly honest, and generous even to a fault.

At Bath, the Dowager Lady Aylmer.

At Bath, Sir John Leicester, Knt.

The Hon. P. Lamb, son of Lord Melbourne, and member for Hertfordshire.

Lately

Lately, at Norwich, in the state of Connecticut, Mr Samuel Brown, aged 90. He was the first owner of a chaise in Norwich, and was prosecuted, in those "blue-law days," for a breach of Sabbath, and fined for riding in his carriage on a Sunday to attend public worship.

Jan. 12. At Bangholm-Bower, near Edinburgh, David Gilmore, Esq. formerly a respectable merchant at St Petersburgh.

12. At Broadlands, Hampshire, Viscountess Palmerston, relict of the late Viscount.

15. At Edinburgh, Mrs Mary O'Brien Souly, relict of John Menzies of Culdares, Esq.

15. At his palace, near the city of Cork, the Right Reverend and Hon. Dr Stopford, Bishop of Cork and Ross.

16. At London, Sir Richard Heron, Bart. Lord Treasurer's remembrancer in the Court of Eqchequer.

17. At Thurso manse, the Reverend Patrick Nicholson, minister.

17. At Restalrig, Mrs Janet Blair, relict of Alexander Tait, Esq. principal clerk of Session.

23. At Edinburgh, the infant son of Colin M'Kenzie, Esq. clerk of Session.

25. At Bowmore, aged 90, Mrs Campbell of Jura.

25. At London, suddenly, Sir Richard Pearson, Knt. Lieut.-Governor of Greenwich Hospital.

25. At ditto, Sir Francis Whiteworth, Lieut. Colonel, Royal Artillery.

26. At Edinburgh, Mr Andrew Kay, painter.

26. At ditto, Mrs Hay, relict of John Hay of Leys, Esq.

29. At Dunans, Argyleshire, aged 85, Mrs Helen Campbell, spouse of Angus Fletcher of Dunans, Esq.

29. At manse of Kinloch, the Rev. John Brodie, minister of that parish.

30. At Edinburgh, suddenly, aged 62, John Robison, Esq. Professor of Natural Philosophy in the university of Edinburgh.

31. At manse of Little Dunkeld, the Rev. John Robertson, minister of that parish.

31. At Edinburgh, Mrs Margaret Playfair, relict of the late Rev. James Playfair, minister of Liff, Angusshire.

Feb. 2. At Fingask, Perthshire, aged 89, Sir Stuart Threipland, Bart. senior member of the royal college of physicians, Edinburgh.

2. At Farme, aged 93, James Farie of Farme, Esq.

2. At London, aged 71, Thomas Banks, Esq. R. A. an eminent statuary.

3. At ditto, suddenly, John Spottiswood, of Spottiswood, Esq. an eminent solicitor.

3. At Kirkwall, John Traill of Woodwick, Esq.

3. At Edinburgh, Mrs Traill, relict of the late Dr James Traill, Bishop of Down and Connor.

4. At Stirling, aged 77, Mr James Alexander, merchant, and formerly Provost of that burgh.

5. At Drumsheugh, near Edinburgh, aged 84, Mrs Barbara Campbell, daughter of the late Dugald Campbell, Esq. of Kilberry.

6. At Bath, the Lady of John Halket, Esq. Governor of Tobago.

7. At ——, David Rob. Mitchell, of Dulish, Esq. aged 70.

9. At Edinburgh, Mr Hugh M'Gilvra, late of Pennygaill.

—. At London, Lady Harland, relict of Vice-Admiral Sir Robert Harland, Bart.

11. At Newport, near Exeter, the Hon. Samuel Mitchell, President of his Majesty's Council at Grenada.

12. At Newmanswalls, Dav. Brown, Esq.

12. At Winchester, Sir Thomas Rivers Gay, Bart.

13. At Edinburgh, Mr John Reddie, merchant, formerly of Dysart.

13. At ditto, Miss Jackson, daughter of the late Dr Charles Jackson, of Nicolastownfield.

16. At Montrose, Mr Alexander Greig, wine merchant.

17. At Deptford, aged 92, Mrs Cranston, mother of Capt. Cranston, of the Marine Society's ship stationed there.

17. At Edinburgh, Sir James Stirling, Bart. formerly Lord Provost of Edinburgh. He is succeeded in his title by his only son, now Sir Gilbert Stirling, a Lieut. in the Coldstream Regiment of Guards.

20. At ditto, Mrs Houston, relict of Alexander Houston, of Jordanhill, Esq.

20. At ditto, Robert Learmonth, youngest son of Mr John Learmonth, merchant.

20. At ditto, James Anderson, jun. writer.

Price of Stocks.

1805.	Bank Stock.	Omnium.	3 per cent Consols.
Jan. 28.	177 9	——	61⅛ 60¼
Feb. 1.	179 80	——	61⅛ 60¼
4	179 8	——	59½ ⅜
8.	177	——	58½ ⅛
11.	——	——	57⅞ 59¼
15.	——	——	57½ 59
18.	——	——	59 58⅜
22.	——	——	59 58

Prices of Grain per quarter, Corn Exchange, London.

1805.	Wheat.	Barley	Oats.	Pease.
	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.
Jan. 28.	85 118	48 53	29 34	44 53
Feb. 1.	90 120	47 52	30 35	50 57
4	88 112	45 50	28 33	50 57
8.	86 110	45 50	28 33	44 52
11.	80 110	43 48	27 33	42 48
15.	80 110	42 46	27 33	41 47
18.	75 100	43 48	26 31	40 45
22.	76 101	42 47	26 30	40 46

Average prices of Corn of England and Wales, by the quarter of eight Winchester bushels, and of Oatmeal per boll of 140lbs. Avoirdupois, from the returns received in the week ending Feb. 16.

Wheat 91s. 7d.—Rye 57s. 8d.—Barley 48s. 0d.—Oats 27s. 0d.—Beans 46s. 10d.—Pease 49s. 4d.—Oatmeal 42s. 9d.—Beer or Big 30s. 9d.

Average price of Corn in Scotland, by the quarter of eight Winchester bushels, and of Oatmeal per boll of 128lb. Scots Troy, of the four weeks preceding the 15th February 1805.

Wheat 77s, 3d.—Rye 35s. 7d.—Barley 36s. 8d.—Oats 22s. 7d.—Beans 35s. 8d.—Pease 35s. 4d.—Oat meal 19s. 3d.—Beer or Big 33s. 8d.

District Average prices; and Aggegrate Average Prices by which Exportation and Bounty are to be regulated.

First 12 Districts—Aggregate Averages.

Wheat 91s, 8d.—Rye 57s. 5d.—Barley 46s. 2d.—Oats 26s. 7d.—Beans 45s. 2d.—Pease 47s. 6d.—Oatmeal 37s. 8d.—Beer or Big 30s. 9d. per quarter.

13th, 14th, 15th, and 16th Districts—Aggregate Averages.

Wheat 77s. 7d.—Rye 36s. 2d.—Barley 37s. 7d.—Oats 22s. 10d.—Beans 37s. 1d.—Pease 37s. 6d.—Oatmeal 19s. 7d.—Beer or Big 34s. 6d.—all per quarter.

Prices of Grain at Haddington.

1805.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Peafe.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan. 25.	45 6	28 0	17 0	18 0
Feb. 1.	51 0	31 0	20 6	17 6
8.	47 0	31 0	21 6	17 6
15.	49 0	30 0	21 6	17 6

Prices of Oat, Pease, and Barley Meal in Edinburgh Market per Peck.

1805.	Oatmeal.			Pease & Barley Meal.	
	Bolls.	Price.		Bolls.	Price.
		d.	d.		d. s.
Jan. 29.	330	15	14½	50	15 1
Feb. 5.	290	15	14½	40	15 1
12.	280	15	14½	50	15 1
19.	300	15	14½	60	15 1
26.	270	15	14½	50	15 1

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We are sorry that *W. B.* has taken the trouble of copying the extract from GROSIER. Our extracts are either from new, or from rare books; whereas that author's travels have been long published, and are in every one's hands.

We have received a severe criticism on the *Man of Sorrow*, some parts of which may, perhaps, be just. But, as the unfortunate poet can never more either please or offend the public taste, we think it needless to war with his ashes.

The *Letters from France and Italy*; and *Mrs Skinflint's humourous dream*, will appear in our next.

The *Critique on the Juvenal*, with several other pieces, are under consideration.

R. Scott Sculp.

TOWN of LERWICK & FORT CHARLOTTE ZETLAND.